

CHIEFS AND LEADING FAMILIES

IN

RAJPUTANA.

SECOND EDITION.



CALCUTTA:

OFFICE OF THE SUPERINTENDENT OF GOVERNMENT PRINTING, INDIA.
1903.

CALCUTTA:
GOVERNMENT OF INDIA CENTRAL PRINTING OFFICE,
8. HASTINGS STREET.

PREFACE.

THE materials for this work projected in 1890 by Colonel G. H. Trevor, C.S.I., Agent to the Governor-General for Rajputana, were collected from the several States of that province through the Political Officers according to certain specified instructions with regard to arrangement. They were afterwards compiled, at Colonel Trevor's request, and put into their present form by Mr. C. S. Bayley, C.S., then Political Agent, Bikanir, who has drawn on the Rajputana Gazetteer for the historical extracts inserted to render clearer the position of the Chiefs and leading families noticed. For purposes of reference, the compilation will, it is hoped, prove useful and supply a recognized want. It must not be regarded as strictly accurate in all details of family history which, as usual, have been supplied from interested sources. They have, however, been checked as far as possible.

INDEX.

JODHPUR.

| | PAGE |
|--|------|
| THE CHIEF | 5 |
| Agewa, Thakur Bhopal Singh of | 8 |
| Akhey Singh, Maharaj | 5 |
| Alniawas, Thakur Sheo Singh of | 8 |
| Arjun Singh, Maharaj | 5 |
| Askaran, Joshi | 9 |
| Asop, Thakur Chain Singh of | 7 |
| Bheron Singh of | 7 |
| Fath Singh of | 7 |
| Zorawar Singh of | 7 |
| Awa, Thakur Pratap Singh of | 7 |
| Dalpat Singh of | 7 |
| Ranjit Singh of | 7 |
| Sheodan Singh of | 7 |
| Bagri, Thakur of | 7 |
| Bhadrajan, Thakur Sheodan Singh of | 8 |
| Bhopal Singh, Maharaj | 5 |
| Bijay Singh, Maharaj | 5 |
| Daulat Singh, Maharaj | 5 |
| Dinanath, Pandit | 9 |
| Fatteh Singh, Maharaj | 5 |
| Gaj Singh, Kunwar | 5 |
| Ganayats | 7 |
| Guman Singh, Kunwar | 5 |
| Hanot Singh, Kunwar | 5 |
| Hanwant Chand, Bhandari | 9 |
| Hira Lal, Munshi | 9 |
| Kantalia, Thakur Arjun Singh of | 8 |
| Kherwa, Thakur Fateh Singh of | 8 |
| Kishor Singh, Maharaj | 5 |
| Kishori Lal, Munshi | 9 |
| Kuchawan, Thakur Sher Singh of | 8 |
| Bagh Singh of | 8 |
| Nahar Singh of | 8 |
| Umed Singh of | 8 |
| Lambhan, Sheodan Singh of | 7 |
| Madho Prasad, Pandit | 9 |
| Mundiar, Barath of | 7 |
| Murardau, Kaviraja | 8 |
| Nimaj, Thakur Pirthi Singh of | 7 |
| Pokaran, Thakur Mangal Singh of | 7 |
| Chain Singh of | 7 |
| Ganga Singh of | 7 |
| Kushal Singh of | 7 |
| Sukh Singh of | 7 |
| Pratap Singh, Maharaj Sir, G.C.S.I., K.C.B., LL.D. | 5 |
| Raipor, Thakur Hari Singh of | 8 |
| Bane Singh of | 8 |
| Gohardhan Singh of | 8 |
| Madan Singh of | 8 |
| Ram Singh of | 8 |
| Sohan Singh of | 8 |
| Ras, Thakur Fateh Singh of | 8 |
| Balwant Singh of | 8 |
| Bhopal Singh of | 8 |
| Hamir Singh of | 8 |
| Hanwant Singh of | 8 |
| Mehtah Singh of | 8 |
| Ratan Singh, Maharaj | 5 |
| Rhada Mull, Barrister-at-Law | |

| | PAGE |
|-----------------------------|------|
| Rian, Thakur Bijay Singh of | 7 |
| Bhagwat Singh of | 7 |
| Fateh Singh of | 7 |
| Lachman Singh of | 7 |
| Mal Singh of | 7 |
| Nirmal Singh of | 7 |
| Robat, Ranjit Singh of | 7 |
| Sarayats | 7 |
| Sardar Mal, Mahta | 8 |
| Sawai Singh, Rao Raja | 5 |
| Sher Singh, Maharaj | 5 |
| Sukhdeo Prasad, Pandit | 9 |
| Sumer Singh, Maharaj Kunwar | 5 |
| Tej Singh, Rao Raja | 5 |
| Zalim Singh, Maharaj | 5 |
| Zorawar Singh, Maharaj | 5 |

BIKANER.

| | |
|------------------------------------|--------|
| THE CHIEF | 9 |
| Abdussamad Khan | 13 |
| Ahhay Singh, Mahta | 10 |
| Ajitpura, Thakur of | 12 |
| Bachawat family | 13 |
| Rae, Thakur Jagmal Singh of | 15 |
| Bagawat " | 13 |
| Bahadra, Thakur of | 13 |
| Baid family | 13, 15 |
| Bakhtawar Singh | 16 |
| Bararia family | 13 |
| Bhairun Dan Mahta | 15 |
| Bhairun Singh, Maharaj | 10 |
| Bhairun Dan, Kaviraj | 14 |
| Bhukarka, Thakur Kam Singh of | 12, 14 |
| Bidasar, Thakur Hukm Singh of | 12, 14 |
| Bahadur Singh of | 15 |
| Bithnok, Thakur of | 13 |
| Brij Basi Lall | 16 |
| Chhatar Singh, Rao | 15 |
| Choru, Thakur Lal Singh of | 13, 15 |
| Pana Singh of | 15 |
| Cooper, R. D. | 16 |
| Dip Singh, Thakur | 16 |
| Hamiduzzafar Khan, Sahibzada | 16 |
| Jaimalwar, Rao of | 12 |
| Jasana, Thakur of | 12 |
| Jaswant Singh, Maharaj | 9 |
| Jisukh Ram | 16 |
| Jivraj Singh, Thakur | 15 |
| Kachh Maharani | 10 |
| Kampta Prasad | 16 |
| Kaviraj | 14 |
| Kharhara, Thakur of | 12 |
| Khet Singh, Maharaj | 11 |
| Kishor Singh | 16 |
| Kothiaris | 13 |
| Lakshmi Chand, Knehar | 15 |
| Lalji Mal | 16 |
| Lankaran | 15 |
| Mahajan, Thakur Bakhtawar Singh of | 14 |
| Bhupal Singh of | 14 |
| Hari Singh of | 12, 14 |
| Sheonath Singh of | 14 |
| Man Mal Knehar | 15 |
| Mohta Maganmal | 15 |
| Muhammad Husain, Munshi | 16 |
| Nabar Singh, Maharaj | 9 |
| Nemi Chand | 15 |

| | PAGE |
|---|--------|
| Nemi Chand, Seth | 16 |
| Nihal Singh | 16 |
| Omar Dan | 15 |
| Pane Singh, Maharaj | 15 |
| Parihar family | 13 |
| Pnagal, Rao Mahtah Singh of | 15 |
| Rajpura, Thakur of | 12 |
| Rakhicha family | 13 |
| Rampuria family | 14 |
| Rathis | 13 |
| Rawatsar, Rawat Man Singh of | 12, 14 |
| Resi-Reri, Thakur Jewraj Singh of | 15 |
| Sahni family | 13 |
| Sandwa, Thakur Moti Singh of | 15 |
| Sankhla family | 13 |
| Sankhu, Thakur of | 12 |
| Satasar, Thakur of | 12 |
| Sidhmukh, Thakur of | 12 |
| Sitaram | 16 |
| Tej Karan, Rampuria | 15 |
| Zorawar Mal, Prohit | 15, 16 |

KISHANGARH.

| | |
|--|----|
| THE CHIEF | 16 |
| Anand Singh, Lala | 19 |
| Bhamholao, Thakur Bahadur Singh of | 18 |
| Govind Singh of | 18 |
| Indar Singh of | 18 |
| Nabar Singh of | 18 |
| Chosla, Thakur Bairisal of | 19 |
| Dhasuk, Maharaj Raghunnath Singh of | 18 |
| Fathgarh, Maharaj Man Singh of | 18 |
| Ghanshyam Saran Devaji, Maharaj Sri | 20 |
| Gothiana, Thakur Govind Singh of | 19 |
| Bhauwar Lal Singh of | 19 |
| Nonad Singh of | 19 |
| Zorawar Singh of | 19 |
| Govardhan, Paudit | 19 |
| Jawan Singh, Maharaj | 17 |
| Karkheri, Maharaj Jawani Singh of | 18 |
| Khatauli, Thakur Sheonath Singh of | 19 |
| Bhim Singh of | 19 |
| Devi Singh of | 19 |
| Dungar Singh of | 19 |
| Gulab Singh of | 19 |
| Sardar Singh of | 19 |
| Sawai Singh of | 19 |
| Sultan Singh of | 19 |
| Ugam Singh of | 19 |
| Kotri, Thakur Raghunnath Singh of | 19 |
| Kalyan Singh of | 19 |
| Naraina, Thakur Gopal Singh | 18 |
| Biradh Singh of | 18 |
| Pandarwara, Thakur Ram Singh of | 19 |
| Raghunnath Singh of | 19 |
| Raghunnathpura, Thakur Bharat Singh of | 19 |
| Ramanath Singh of | 19 |
| Ranjit Singh of | 19 |
| Raghunath Singh, Maharaj | 17 |
| Ralaota, Raja Nonid Singh of | 18 |
| Mul Singh of | 18 |
| Sheodan Singh of | 18 |
| Zorawar Singh of | 18 |
| Syam Sundar Lal, B.A., Bahu | 19 |
| Sinodia, Thakur Govind Singh of | 18 |
| Ganga Singh | 19 |
| Sobhag Singh | 19 |

UDAIPUR.

| | |
|--------------------------------------|----|
| THE CHIEF | 21 |
| Amet, Rawat Sheonath Singh of | 26 |
| Asin, Rawat Ranjit Singh of | 27 |
| Banera, Raja Govind Singh of | 24 |
| Akhy Singh of | 24 |
| Ram Singh of | 24 |
| Bansi, Rawat Sakht Singh of | 26 |
| Bari Sadri, Raj Rana Dooleh Singh of | 24 |
| Bedla, Rao Nahar Singh of | 25 |
| Bednor, Thakor Govind Singh of | 26 |
| Begun, Rawat Sawai Megh Singh of | 25 |
| Anup Singh of | 25 |
| Bhainsrorgarh, Rawat Indar Singh of | 26 |
| Bhindar, Maharaj Madho Singh of | 26 |
| Bhupal Singh, Kunwar | 21 |
| Bijolia, Rao Kishan Singh of | 25 |
| Deogarh, Rawat Bijay Singh of | 25 |
| Dilwara, Raj Rana Man Singh of | 25 |
| Gogunda, Raj Pirthi Singh of | 26 |
| Govardhan Lalji, Goswami Maharaj Sri | 27 |
| Kanor, Rawat Nahar Singh of | 28 |
| Karjali, Maharaj Sorat Singh of | 27 |
| Himmat Singh of | 27 |
| Khumman Singh of | 28 |
| Luchman Singh of | 28 |
| Tej Singh of | 25 |
| Korabar, Rawat Kishor Singh of | 26 |
| Kotharia, Rawat Jawan Singh of | 26 |
| Meja, Rawat Raj Singh of | 27 |
| Panna Lal, Mahta, Rai, C.I.E. | 26 |
| Parsoli, Rao Ratan Singh of | 26 |
| Abhay Singh of | 27 |
| Devi Singh of | 27 |
| Madho Singh of | 27 |
| Salumbar, Rawat Unar Singh of | 25 |
| Sardargarh, Thakur Manohar Singh of | 27 |
| Scorati, Maharaj Gaj Singh of | 24 |
| Shahpura, Raja Dhiraj Nahar Singh of | 24 |
| Sardar Singh of | 24 |
| Umed Singh of | 24 |
| Sohan Singh, Maharaj | 21 |

DUNGARPUR.

| | |
|-----------------------------------|----|
| THE CHIEF | 28 |
| Bamasa, Thakur Lal Singh of | 28 |
| Sardar Singh of | 28 |
| Bankora, Thakur Dalpat Singh of | 28 |
| Basaot Singh of | 28 |
| Kishan Singh of | 28 |
| Parbat Singh of | 28 |
| Bicbiwara, Thakur Dhirat Singh of | 28 |
| Balwant Singh of | 29 |
| Indar Singh of | 29 |
| Kua, Thakur Ram Singh of | 28 |
| Zorawar Singh of | 28 |
| Lodawal, Thakur Shiva Singh of | 28 |
| Anup Singh of | 28 |
| Bhawani Singh of | 28 |
| Sher Singh of | 28 |
| Madow, Thakur Dalpat Singh of | 28 |
| Naodli, Thakur Umed Singh of | 28 |
| Bhopal Singh of | 28 |
| Gopal Singh of | 28 |
| Khuman Singh of | 28 |
| Takht Singh of | 28 |

| | PAGE |
|---|------|
| Oara, Maharaj Parbat Singh of | 28 |
| Peit, Thakur Zorawar Singh of | 28 |
| Sangram Singh of | 29 |
| Sabli, Thakur Shimbhu Singh of | 28 |
| Snaj, Thakur Pahar Singh of | 29 |
| Fateh Singh of | 29 |
| Raj Singh of | 29 |
| Thakurda, Thakur Kesri Singh of | 29 |
| Amir Singh of | 29 |
| Bijoy Singh of | 29 |
| Chatar Singh of | 29 |
| Dalpat Singh of | 29 |
| Hamir Singh of | 29 |
| Madan Singh of | 29 |
| Sangram Singh of | 29 |

BANSWARA

| | |
|--|----|
| THE CHIEF | 30 |
| Anup Singh, Thakur | 32 |
| Arthuaa, Prithi Singh, Thakur of | 32 |
| Bakhtawar Singh, Thakur | 22 |
| Balwant Singh, Thakur, I | 32 |
| Balwant Singh, Thakur, II | 32 |
| Dalpat Singh, Thakur | 32 |
| Ganora, Moti Singh, Thakur | 32 |
| Garhi, Rao Saugram Singh of | 33 |
| Khandu, Maharaj Raghunath Singh of | 33 |
| Sajjan Singh of | 33 |
| Kushalgarh, Rao Udai Singh of | 32 |
| Jaswant Singh of | 33 |
| Ranjit Singh of | 33 |
| Mandov, Thakur Dalpat Singh of | 32 |
| Molan, Thakur Gopal Singh of | 33 |
| Shimbhu Singh, Kuwar | 30 |
| Suraj Mal, Thakur | 33 |
| Surya Singh, Bhai | 32 |
| Thakurda, Thakur Kesri Singh of | 32 |

PARTABGARH.

| | |
|---|----|
| THE CHIEF | 35 |
| Achlaoda, Thakur Madho Singh of | 36 |
| Barlin, Thakur Sammat Singh of | 36 |
| Chandan Singh, Dasundi | 35 |
| Damotar, Thakur Hindu Singh of | 35 |
| Gordhan Singh of | 35 |
| Jhantala, Thakur Takht Singh of | 36 |
| Pratap Singh of | 36 |
| Kalyanpura, Thakur Devi Singhof | 36 |
| Khushhal Singh, Maharaj | 35 |
| Man Singh | 35 |
| Raipur, Thakur Ratan Singh of | 36 |

BHUMIA AND GRASSIA CHIEFS OF THE HILLY TRACTS, MEWAR.

| | |
|--|----|
| Jawas, Ratan Singh, Rao of | 37 |
| Jura, Sheo Singh, Rawat of | 38 |
| Partap Singh | 39 |
| Mndri, Bakhtawar Singh, Rao of | 37 |
| Manohur Singh of | 38 |
| Partap Singh of | 38 |
| Ranjit Singh of | 38 |
| Oghna, Umara Singh, Rawat of | 39 |
| Ajey Singh | 39 |
| Kishor Singh | 39 |
| Panurwa, Arjun Singh, Runna of | 40 |
| Bhim Singh | 40 |
| Madho Singh | 40 |

| | Page |
|---------------------------------------|------|
| Adiwas Jagirdar | 40 |
| Pannurwa, Ora Thakur | 40 |
| Umria Jagirdar | 40 |
| Pars, Badan Singh, Rawat of | 37 |

SHAHUPURA.

| | |
|---|----|
| THE CHIEF | 41 |
| Bakhtawar Singh | 42 |
| Birdaul, Thakur Nabar Singh of | 42 |
| Khamor, Thakur Zorawar Singh of | 42 |
| Ramdwan, Mahant of | 42 |
| Sardar Singh, second son of the Chief | 41 |
| Thahsal, Thakur Udal Singh of | 42 |
| Umed Singh, the heir-apparent | 41 |

BUNDI.

| | |
|--|----|
| THE CHIEF | 44 |
| Bamangson, Maharaja Rangraj Singh of | 45 |
| Bansi, Maharaj Raghuraj Singh of | 45 |
| Ishwari Singh of | 45 |
| Datoada, Rawat Lal Singh of | 46 |
| Mukund Singh of | 46 |
| Dhoora, Maharaj Mor Singh of | 45 |
| Dugari, Maharaj Sheosam Singh of | 45 |
| Gudha, Maharaj Arjun Singh of | 45 |
| Ranbir Singh of | 45 |
| Indur Singh, Raghu (dead) | 44 |
| Jalodi, Maharaj Nand Singh of | 46 |
| Ranjit Singh of | 46 |
| Jitgarh, Maharaj Haranth Singh of | 46 |
| Kapren, Bir Singh, Ex-Jagirdar of | 46 |
| Khera, Raidhar, Maharaj Jaswant Singh of | 45 |
| Lilera, Thakur Shambhn Prasad Singh of | 45 |
| Maghlana, Maharaj Hauwant Singh of | 45 |
| Kalyan Singh of | 46 |
| Matonda, Maharaj Jagannath Singh of | 45 |
| Harnath Singh of | 45 |
| Randhir Singh of | 45 |
| Nimana, Maharaj Gordhan Singh of | 45 |
| Pagara, Thakur Indar Sal of | 45 |
| Ari Sal of | 45 |
| Saugram Singh of | 45 |
| Samar Sal of | 45 |

KOTA.

| | |
|---|----|
| THE CHIEF | 46 |
| Amli, Maharaja Dhiraj Singh of | 46 |
| Amritkheri, Thakur Zalim Singh of | 50 |
| Antarda, Maharaja Devi Singh of | 47 |
| Ajit Singh of | 47 |
| Indar Singh of | 47 |
| Prithwi Singh of | 47 |
| Saugram Singh of | 47 |
| Balwan, Maharaja Gagan Sal of | 47 |
| Berisal, Kunwar | 46 |
| Madhu Singh of | 47 |
| Bamulia, Maharaja Jay Singh of | 47 |
| Chaggan Singh, Maharaja | 48 |
| Dabri, Apji Karn Singh of | 46 |
| Dhol Singh of | 50 |
| Mor Singh of | 50 |
| Narsin Singh of | 50 |
| Gsiuta, Maharaja Madhu Singh of | 50 |
| Alhey Raj | 47 |

| | Page |
|---|------|
| Ghati, Rawat Chater Sal of | 49 |
| Durjan Sal of | 49 |
| Girwar Singh of | 49 |
| Lachhman Singh of | 49 |
| Nathu Singh of | 49 |
| Zorawar Singh of | 49 |
| Harnaoda, Rao Raja Partah Sahai of | 50 |
| Indargarh, Maharaja Sher Singh of | 46 |
| Kachnaoda, Thakur Moti Singh of | |
| Devi Sal of | 49 |
| Ragbhir Singh of | 49 |
| Ragbunath Singh of | 49 |
| Karwar, Thakur Sardul Singh of | 47 |
| Bhur Singh of | 47 |
| Durga Das of | 47 |
| Kesar Singh of | 47 |
| Khatoli, Maharaja Balwant Singh of | 47 |
| Aparwal Singh of | 47 |
| Shankar Singh of | 47 |
| Kherli, Thakur Bhim Singh of | 49 |
| Devi Singh of | 49 |
| Ude Singh of | 49 |
| Kherli, Maharaja Chuterbhuj Singh of | 50 |
| Arjun Sal of | 50 |
| Beri Sal of | 50 |
| Mor Singh of | 50 |
| Koela, Apji Gohind Singh of | 48 |
| Lachman Singh of | 48 |
| Kotra, Maharaja Durjan Sal of | 50 |
| Kunari, Raj Bijay Singh of | 48 |
| Mundli, Maharaja Durjan Sal of | 50 |
| Arjun Singh of | 50 |
| Devi Singh of | 50 |
| Lachhman Singh of | 50 |
| Narsingh Singh of | 50 |
| Ranjit Singh of | 50 |
| Nimola, Maharaja Ranjit Singh of | 48 |
| Palaitha, Apji Amar Singh, Rao Bahadur of | 48 |
| Unkar Singh, Kunwar of | 48 |
| Phasnd, Thakur Jai Singh of | 47 |
| Achal Singh of | 47 |
| Baldeo Singh of | 47 |
| Pipalda, Thakur Lal Singh of | 47 |
| Rajgarh, Apji Madho Singh of | 49 |
| Bairisal of | 49 |
| Chotaji of | 49 |
| Sarola, Pandit Ganpat Rao of | 48 |
| Mangesh Rao of | 49 |
| Sarthal, Thakur Sheodan Singh of | 50 |
| Bakht Singh of | 50 |
| Bhawani Singh of | 50 |
| Srinal, Thakur Bajrang Singh of | 50 |
| Chatar Singh of | 50 |
| Jawahir Singh of | 50 |

SIROHL.

| | |
|---|----|
| THE CHIEF | |
| Ajari, Rajsahiban Zorawar Singh of | 51 |
| Amar Singh of | 52 |
| Bhatana, Thakuran Raj Sri Oodey Singh of | 52 |
| Dabani, Thakur Ajit Singh of | 53 |
| Jawahir Chand Singhi | 53 |
| Jawal, Thakuran Raj Sri Megh Singh of | 53 |
| Kalandri, Thakuran Raj Sri Prithwi Raj of | 53 |
| Madar, Raj Sri Udai Raj of | 53 |
| Sheonath Singh of | 52 |

| | PAGE |
|--|------|
| Manadar, Raj Sahibau Tej Singh of | 52 |
| Dalpat Singh of | 52 |
| Man Singh of | 52 |
| Mandwara, Thakur Daugar Singh of | 53 |
| Motagaon, Thakurau Raj Sri Lachhman Singh of | 53 |
| Nadis, Raj Sahiban Jet Singh of | 52 |
| Achal Singh of | 52 |
| Nimaj, Thakurau Raj Sri Himmat Singh of | 53 |
| Padiy, Thakuran Raj Sri Abbey Singh of | 52 |
| Rohus, Thakuran Raj Sri Ajit Singh of | 53 |
| Sarayats | 52 |
| Saup Singh, Maharaj Kunwar | 51 |

JAISALMER.

| | |
|---|----|
| THE CHIEF | 55 |
| Baragaon, Thakur Madho Singh of | 57 |
| Barsalpur, Rao Dhanji of | 57 |
| Meghji of | 57 |
| Moti Singh of | 57 |
| Baru, Thakur Bakhtawar Singh of | 57 |
| Panji of | 57 |
| Bbadli, Thakur Kishen Singh of | 57 |
| Bikampur, Rao Khetsi of | 57 |
| Abhay Singh of | 57 |
| Amar Singh of | 57 |
| Bikasar, Thakur Bulidan of | 57 |
| Chelak, Thakur Hemji of | 57 |
| Daugri, Thakur Lachhman Singh of | 57 |
| Satidan of | 57 |
| Deoran, Thakur Balidan of | 57 |
| Eta, Thakur Man Singh of | 57 |
| Gehun or Baiya, Thakur Achal Singh of | 57 |
| Girajsar, Thakur Amar Singh of | 57 |
| Jagjwan, Malta | 58 |
| Jaswant Singh, Thakur | 57 |
| Jawahir Singh | 57 |
| Jhinjinyali, Thakur Balidan of | 57 |
| Khuri, Thakur Rai Singh of | 57 |
| Lathi, Thakur Dan Singh of | 55 |
| Lunar, Thakur Anand Singh of | 57 |
| Machna, Thakur Saltau Singh of | 57 |
| Modhan, Thakur Ranjit Singh of | 57 |
| Nathmal, Mahta | 58 |
| Nawatala, Thakur Pratap Singh of | 57 |
| Rajgarh, Thakur Hirji of | 57 |
| Rindhan, Thakur Bakhtawar Singh of | 57 |
| Salim Singh, Thakur | 57 |
| Satyaya, Thakur Hathi Singh of | 57 |
| Sheodan Singh, Thakur | 57 |
| Sirrau, Thakur Kau Singh of | 57 |
| Nawal Singh of | 57 |
| Sultau Singh | 55 |

KARAUJI.

| | |
|--|----|
| THE CHIEF | 58 |
| Bhawani Singh, Doctor | 59 |
| Bholanath Chatterji | 58 |
| Bhum Pal, Rao | 58 |
| Bishal Singh, Risaldar | 58 |
| Chimau Singh, Bhanwar | 58 |
| Gajraj Pal | 58 |
| Ganga Pal | 58 |
| Jaswant Pal | 58 |
| Lakhpai Singh, Raja Babadur | 58 |
| Mahomed Bakhsh Khan, Jewadar | 59 |

| | PAGE |
|-------------------------------------|------|
| Moti Pal, Thakur | 58 |
| Nirpat Singh, Chowdhri | 58 |
| Ram Charah Singh, Captain | 59 |
| Sarwar Pal | 58 |
| Sujan Pal, Kunwar | 58 |
| Suijan Pal | 58 |
| Zia-uddin Khan, Mehomed | 59 |

JAIPUR.

| | |
|---|--------|
| THE CHIEF | 60 |
| Achrol, Thakur Kesri Singh of | 64 |
| Kishan Singh of | 64 |
| Ram Nath Singh of | 64 |
| Bagru, Thakur Sanwant Singh of | 64 |
| Hari Singh of | 64 |
| Jaswant Singh of | 64 |
| Pratap Singh of | 64 |
| Banskho, Thakur Sheo Singh of | 64 |
| Bhoor Singh, Thakur | 66 |
| Bisau, Thakur Bishan Singh of | 66 |
| Chomu, Thakur Devi Singh of | 62 |
| Dhula, Rawat Bane Singh of | 64, 65 |
| Digi, Thakur Devi Singh of | 63 |
| Dudu, Thakur Sheonath Singh of | 65 |
| Duni, Rao Lachhman Singh of | 64 |
| Gijgarh, Thakur Kusal Singh of | 65 |
| Goner, Thakur Mukund Singh of | 65 |
| Bhoor Singh | 65 |
| Isarda, Thakur Sawai Singh of | 65 |
| Jhalai, Thakur Bijay Singh of | 63 |
| Kanaota, Thakur Zorawar Singh of | 65 |
| Khandela, Raja Hamir Singh of | 63 |
| Khetri, Raja Jai Singh of | 64 |
| Kotla, Thakur Umrao Singh of | 66 |
| Mahomed Abdul Vajid Ali Khan | 66 |
| Mahomed Fayaz Ali Khan, the Hon'ble Nawab Muntaz-ud-Daula | 66 |
| Manoharpur, Rao Pratap Singh of | 63 |
| Mukarji, Babu Isan Chandar | 66 |
| Naila, Thakur Rup Singh of | 65 |
| Duleep Singh of | 65 |
| Partap Singh of | 65 |
| Patan, Rao Mukund Singh of | 66 |
| Samod, Rawal Fath Singh of | 63 |
| Sen, Babu Sansar Chandar | 66 |
| Seora, Thakur Indar Karn of | 65 |
| Sikar, Rao Raja Madho Singh Bahadur of | 63 |
| Siwar, Thakur Mahtab Singh of | 66 |
| Srajgarh, Thakur Jivan Singh of | 65 |
| Uniara, Rao Raja Guman Singh of | 63 |

LAWA.

| | |
|---|----|
| Mangal Singh, Rai Bahadur, Thakur of Lawa | 67 |
|---|----|

ALWAR.

| | |
|--|----|
| THE CHIEF | 69 |
| Balmakund Das, Munshi, Diwan Bahadur | 72 |
| Bara Kotris | 70 |
| Bijwar, Thakur Madho Singh of | 72 |
| Govind Singh of | 72 |
| Gyan Singh of | 72 |
| Raghunath Singh of | 72 |
| Chamraoli, Thakur of | 70 |
| Garhi, Thakur Karan Singh of | 71 |
| Kesri Singh of | 71 |

| | Page |
|--|------|
| Jaoli, Thakur Dnrjan Singh of | 71 |
| Kishen Singh of | 72 |
| Kulian Singh of | 72 |
| Khara, Thaknr of | 70 |
| Khara, Thaknr Danlat Singh of | 73 |
| Devi Singh of | 72 |
| Zorawar Singh of | 72 |
| Nimrana, Raja Janak Singh of | 70 |
| Debi Singh of | 71 |
| Madho Singh of | 71 |
| Nizamnagar (Pai), Rao Gopal Singh of | 71 |
| Bejai Singh of | 71 |
| Narain Singh of | 71 |
| Odai Singh of | 71 |
| Pai, Thakur of | 70 |
| Palwa, Thakur of | 70 |
| Panch tikanas | 70 |
| Para, Thakur of | 70 |
| Salpur, Thakur of | 70 |
| Srichaudpura, Thaknr Ganga Singh of | 71 |
| Karam Singh | 71 |
| Sukhmeri, Thakur of | 70 |
| Thana, Thakur Ram Singh of | 71 |
| Tatarpur, Thakur of | 70 |

JHALAWAR.

| | |
|---|----|
| THE CHIEF | 73 |
| Bhilwari, Thaknr Man Singh of | 75 |
| Ganga Singh of | 75 |
| Chatar Bhuj, Purohit | 76 |
| Har Lal, Dhabai | 76 |
| Kali Charan, Munshi | 75 |
| Kalmandi, Thakur Arjun Singh of | 74 |
| Chatarbhuji Singh of | 74 |
| Kanwara, Maharaja Balhbhadar Singh of | 74 |
| Kotra, Thakur Takht Singh of | 75 |
| Kundla, Rao Sawai Singh of | 74 |
| Pratap Singh of | 74 |
| Sardul Singh of | 74 |
| Mangal, Thakur Abhay Singh of | 75 |
| Phul Singh of | 75 |
| Narsingh Das, Seth | 75 |
| Rilaiti, Thaknr Sheodan Singh of | 75 |
| Rajendra Singh, Maharaj Kumar | 74 |
| Urmal, Kaka Chatar Sal of | 74 |

BHARATPUR.

| | |
|---|----|
| THE CHIEF | 77 |
| Akhay Singh | 77 |
| Bakram Singh | 78 |
| Bhawani Singh | 78 |
| Bir Narain | 78 |
| Dalel Singh | 78 |
| Devi Singh | 78 |
| Devi Singh, Fonjdar of Ballabgarh | 78 |
| Jodh Singh | 78 |
| Jugal Saran Singh, Rao Raja | 77 |
| Khaman Singh | 77 |
| Khesbhal Singh | 78 |
| Lal Singh | 78 |
| Man Singh | 77 |
| Med Singh | 78 |
| Partap Singh | 77 |
| Raghubir Singh—Dhan Bokhsi | 78 |
| Raghnunath Singh, Rao Raja | 77 |

| | Page |
|--|--------|
| Ram Kishen | 78 |
| Ram Phal | 77 |
| Rashid-ud-din Khan, Khan Bahadur | 78 |
| Samandar Singh, Raja of Weir | 78 |
| Sobharam | 78 |
| Sohan Lal, Rai Bahadur | 78 |
| Sultan Singh | 77, 78 |

DHOLPUR.

| | |
|---|----|
| THE CHIEF | 78 |
| Abbas Husain, Hakim | 79 |
| Abid Ali, Mir | 79 |
| Achhu, Miyan | 79 |
| Bhola Prashad, Rai | 79 |
| Bidkheria family | 78 |
| Bisben Sarup, Rai Bahadur | 79 |
| Fateb Singh, Sardar | 79 |
| Indarbir Singh, Major | 79 |
| Raja Sabib Ratan Singh, Kuar | 78 |
| Rijhauni, Rao Bhup Singh of | 79 |
| Bhamorji I | 79 |
| Bhamorji II | 79 |
| Ratan Singh, Kunwar | 79 |
| Sir Muttra, Rao Ranjit Singh of | 78 |
| Talib Husain, Mir | 79 |
| Umrao Singh, Sardar | 79 |

TONK.

| | |
|---|--------|
| THE CHIEF | 80 |
| Abdul Gaffur Khan, Sahibzada | 81 |
| Abdul Hafiz Khan, Sahibzada, heir-apparent | 80 |
| Abdul Halim, Kazi, Saiyid | 81 |
| Abdul Hamid Khan, Sahibzada | 81 |
| Abdul Hamid Saiyid | 82 |
| Abdul Latif Khan | 83 |
| Abdul Latif Khan, Sahibzada | 81 |
| Abdul Majid | 82 |
| Abdul Majid Khan, Sahibzada | 82 |
| Abdul Rahman Khan | 82 |
| Abdul Rahman, Hafiz | 81 |
| Abdul Rahim, Saiyid | 82 |
| Abdul Rao Khan, Sahibzada | 81 |
| Abdul Samad Khan, Sahibzada | 80 |
| Abdulla Khan, Sahibzada | 80 |
| Abdur Rahim Khan, Sahibzada | 80, 81 |
| Absanullah Khan | 82 |
| Abdul Wahab Khan, Haji, Sahibzada | 80 |
| Abdul Wahid Khan, Sahibzada | 80 |
| Ahmad Khan | 81 |
| Ahmadulla Khan, Sahibzada | 81 |
| Absanulla Khan, Sahibzada | 81 |
| Ali Ahmad Khan, Sahibzada | 82 |
| Ali Muhammad Khan, Sahibzada | 82 |
| Amjad Ali, Saiyid | 82 |
| Aulad Hussain | 82 |
| Balwant Singh, Thakur | 82 |
| Chunni Lal, Munshi | 82 |
| Damodar Rao, Babu | 82 |
| Faruk Ali Khan, Sahibzada | 80 |
| Ganhar Ali Khan | 82 |
| Ghaus Mubammad Khan's son Mubammad Ali Khan | |
| Ghulam Akbar Khan's heirs | 83 |
| Ghulam Ghaus Khan | 83 |
| Hamid Khan, Sahibzada | 81 |
| Iftikhar Ali Khan, Sahibzada | 80 |
| Inamulla Khan | 81 |

| | PAGE |
|---|--------|
| Kalyan Singh, Raja | 83 |
| Magni Ram Bhambhat Singh, Seth | 83 |
| Masud Ali Khan, Sahibzada | 80 |
| Muhammad Abdul Alim Khan, Sahibzada | 81 |
| Muhammad Abdul Majid Khan, Sahibzada | 82 |
| Muhammad Abdul Sami Khan | 82 |
| Muhammad Abdur-Rahman Khan, Sahibzada | 80, 81 |
| Muhammad Abdur-Rashid Khan | 80 |
| Muhammad Ali Khan, Mirza | 82 |
| Muhammad Ali Khan | 82 |
| Muhammad Afzal-yar Khan, Mirza | 82 |
| Muhammad Dastgir Khan's heirs | 83 |
| Muhammad Fazal Haq, Moulvi | 82 |
| Muhammad Hamid Khan, Sahibzada | 81 |
| Muhammad Hasan Khan, Sahibzada | 81 |
| Muhammad Irfan, Saiyid | 82 |
| Muhammad Ishak Khan, Sahibzada | 80, 82 |
| Muhammad Ismail, Saiyid | 82 |
| Muhammad Khan, Sahibzada | 81 |
| Muhammad Khan, Bahadur's heirs | 82 |
| Muhammad Rafik Khan, Sahibzada | 81 |
| Muhammad Sandat Ali Khan, Sahibzada | 80 |
| Muhammad Saifulla Khan, Sahibzada | 81 |
| Muhammad Sher Khan | 83 |
| Muhammad Sadik Khan, Sahibzada | 80, 82 |
| Muhammad Usman Khan, Saiyid | 82 |
| Muhammad Yusuf | 82 |
| Nawab Ali Khan | 82 |
| Nur-ud-din Khan, Sahibzada | 81 |
| Rahim Baksh, Mir Saman Shaikh | 81 |
| Saiyid Muhammad | 82 |
| Sher Ali Khan, Sahibzada | 81 |
| Turab Ali Khan, Sahibzada | 80 |
| Umaa Ali Khan, Sahibzada | 80 |
| Vilayat Rai | 82 |
| Zar Muhammad Khan | 83 |
| Zubair Ali Khan, Sahibzada | 80 |

AJMER.

| | |
|--|----|
| Bagsuri, Thakur Lachman Singh of | 92 |
| Bandanwara, Thakur Gaj Singh of | 91 |
| Barli, Thakur Moti Singh of | 92 |
| Bhinsi, Raja Sardul Singh of | 84 |
| Deogaon-Baghera, Thakur Partab Singh of | 91 |
| Deolia, Thakur Mod Singh of | 90 |
| Dudiana, Mir Shah Muhammad Yahaya, Jagirdar of | 93 |
| Mir Inayatulla Shah, Jagirdar of | 93 |
| Muhammad Aynb Ali Khan of | 93 |
| Muhammad Yakub Ali Khan of | 93 |
| Gangwana, Raja Bijai Singh, Jagirdar of | 93 |
| Ghiyas-ud-din Ali Khan, Dewan | 92 |
| Gobindgarh, Thakur Sankarlal Singh of | 91 |
| Jharwasa, Mir Mibrban Ali, Jagirdar of | 93 |
| Junian, Thakur Kesbi Shing of | 90 |
| Kharwa, Thakur Gopal Singh of | 90 |
| Masuda, Rao Bahadur Singh of | 87 |
| Mehron, Thakur Devi Singh of | 91 |
| Pars, Thakur Sangram Singh of | 91 |
| Pisangan, Raja Kandarpa Sen of | 88 |
| Rajgarh, Raja Chandra Singh, Jagirdar of | 92 |
| Sawar, Thakur Umed Singh of | 87 |
| Shams-ud-din Ali Khan, Nawab | 93 |
| Tantaoti, Thakur, Jaswant Singh of | 92 |
| SETHS | 94 |
| Chand Mal, Seth, Rai | 94 |
| Nemi Chand Soni, Seth | 94 |
| Umed Mal, Seth, Rai Bahadur | 94 |
| Sobhag Mal Dadha, Rai Bahadur | 94 |

CHIEFS AND LEADING FAMILIES

IN

RAJPUTANA.

CHAPTER I.

INTRODUCTION.

[Contributed by Sir Alfred Lyall, K.C.B., to the Gazetteer of Rajputana, dated 1879.]

THE faint outlines which can be traced of the condition of the country now called Rajputana, for one or two centuries before the Muhammadans invaded Upper India, indicate that it was subject for the most part to two or three very powerful tribal dynasties. Of these, the dynasty of the Rahtor family, which ruled at Kanauj, appears to have had the widest dominion; for the early Arabian geographers make the frontier of Kanauj conterminous with Sind, and Al-Marudi styles the Kanauj monarch one of the Kings of Sind. However this may be, it seems certain that the Kanauj territory extended far westward beyond the Jumna into Rajputana, while much of the south-western part was included within the limits of another great kingdom which had its capital in Gujarat. Other tribal dynasties succeeded; and in the eleventh century, about the period of the first Muhammadan inroad into the interior of Northern India, the leading tribes were the Solankhyas of Anhilwara in Gujarat, the Chauhans at Ajmer, and the Rahtors at Kanauj. The Gehlot clan had established itself in the Mewar country which is still held by the Sesodias, a sept of the Gehlots. The Rahtors and Sodas held the north-western deserts, where they are still dwelling, and the Kachhwaha clan had occupied the eastern tracts about Jaipur, now their Chief's capital.

The desert which lies between Sind and Rajputana appears to have sheltered the tribes from any serious inroads of the Arabs who reigned in Sind, but from the north-west their territory was more exposed. Thus the first Musalman invasions found Rajput dynasties seated in all the chief cities of the north and ruling large territories throughout the rich Gangetic plains, at Lahore, Delhi, Kanauj, and Ajudhya. Mahmud of Ghazni marched to Kanauj in 1017 A.D. and reached Muttra; a few years later he subdued Lahore, and in 1024 he made his celebrated expedition to Somnath in Gujarat, marching from Muttra across the Rajput countries to Ajmer. The Solankhyas of Anhilwara were overcome; but the Rajputs barred Mahmud's return by Ajmer, and he was forced to find his way back through the Sind deserts.

In 1170 a furious war broke out between the Solankhyas of Anhilwara and the Chauhans of Ajmer, in which the former were defeated; and about the same time began the famous feud between the Chauhans and the Rahtors of Kanauj. These dissensions weakened the dynasties; nevertheless when Shahabu-d-din began his invasions, the Chauhans fought hard before they were driven out of Delhi and Ajmer in 1193 A.D. Next year Kanauj was taken, and the Rahtor Princes, utterly broken in the Gangetic Doab, emigrated to the country which they have since ruled in North-Western Rajputana. But Ajmer was still sharply disputed, though Kutbu-d-din, Shahabu-d-din's Governor in India, managed at last to drive back the tribes united to contest his occupation of the middle countries, and to force his way through them again into Gujarat. Ajmer and Anhilwara, the former Rajput capitals, were garrisoned by his troops, and the Musalmans appear gradually to have overawed, if they did not entirely reduce, the open country between and about these two places, having garrisoned the fortresses and secured the natural outlets of Rajputana toward Gujarat on the south-west and the Jumna on the north-east. The effect was probably to press back the clans more into the outlying districts, where a more difficult and less inviting country afforded a second line of defence against the foreigner, a line which they have held successfully up to the present day. The existing capitals of the modern States indicate the positions to which the earlier Chiefs retreated. One clan (the Bhatias) had before this founded Jaisalmer in the extreme north-west, having been driven across the Sutlej by the Ghaznavi conquerors. The Rahtors settled down among the sands of Marwar; the Sesodias pushed inward from north-east and south-west, concentrating on the Mewar plateau behind the scarps of the Aravalis; while the Jaduns were protected by the hills and ravines that lie along the Chambal. From these and other migrations and settlements grew up gradually, with varying features and constantly shifting territory, the States now governed by the Rajput Chiefs, the non-Rajput States being of a very different and much more recent formation. The larger States represent the acquisitions of the more powerful and predominant clans; the smaller States are either the separate conquests of a sept that parted company from the main clan or the appauage of some Chief

who set up independently. They have all, in fact, a very similar origin. When the dominant families of a clan lost their dominion in the fertile regions of the north-west, one part of the clan seems to have remained in the conquered country, while another part, probably the defeated Chief's kinsmen and followers, went off westward and carved out another, though much poorer, dominion. They were gradually hemmed up into parts of the country productive enough to yield food and rent, and defensible against the great armies of the foreigner. Having then made a settlement and built a city of refuge, each clan started on an interminable course of feuds and forays, striving to enlarge its borders at the cost of its neighbour. When the land grew too strait for the support of the Chief's family and of the increased clan, a hand would assemble under some new leader and go forth to plant itself elsewhere. In this way the whole of Rajputana appears to have been parted off among the clans which we find there now, and the territories that have been gradually rounded off and consolidated by incessant friction are now called States, under the rule of the Chief of the clan dominant. Of course the original type of tribal dominion has been modified: towns have grown up round the ancient forts, and the Chiefs have, in some instances, modernized their status towards the likeness of a territorial king. Nevertheless, on the whole, these States are still essentially the possessors of clans, and, as such, can be defined and distinguished territorially; nor is the political nature or tenure of these States properly intelligible without bearing their origin in mind. Setting aside, then, the two Jat States and the Muhammadan principality of Tonk, we may describe Rajputana as the region within which the pure-blooded Rajput States have maintained their independence under their own chieftains, and have kept together their primitive societies ever since their principal dynasties in Northern India were cast down and swept away by the Musalman irruption. Of the States of Rajputana eighteen belong to the first rank in the Empire, being under treaty with the Imperial Government, and of these eighteen, fifteen are still ruled by the Chiefs of Rajput clans or families, two of the other three belonging to Jat families and one to a Muhammadan dynasty. A sixteenth Rajput State is Shahpura which has no treaty with the Empire, and which differs from the others both as to its origin and as to the nature of its political connections. . . . The Chief of Shahpura holds his lands by distinct grants from two different superiors, the Rana of Mewar and the Empire. The sixteen Rajput States may be arranged according to the different clans which founded them, and to which the ruling family of necessity belongs, in the following manner:—

| Clan. | Subdivision or sept. | State. |
|---------------------|--------------------------------------|---|
| Rahtor | | Jodhpur (Marwar). Bikaner. Kishangarh. Mewar (Udaipur). Banswara. |
| Sesodia | | Dungarpur. Partabgarh. Shahpura. |
| Chauhan | { Hara Deoria | { Bundi. Kota. Sirohi. |
| Jadun | { Bhati | { Karauli. Jaisalmir. |
| Kachhwaha | { Naruka | { Jaipur. Alwar. |
| Jhala | | Jhalawar. |

The small Chiefship of Khetri in the Shaikhawati district of Jaipur is held on a double tenure of the same kind as that of Shahpura, as the Chief holds one part of his territory, the pargana of Kot Putli, by a grant made on behalf of the British Government by Lord Lake in 1803 and subsequently confirmed as a free gift in perpetuity. On the eastern border of Rajputana, beyond the States of Bundi and Kota, are seven estates called the seven Kotris, held by seven Rajput families of the Hara clan which belong to a peculiar political arrangement.* . . . There are other minor Chiefs of a similar class in different parts of Rajputana, who claimed some kind of privileged status and separate jurisdiction under the ruling power of the State within which their lands are included. This claim is usually by virtue of having descended from a distant stock, or of having originally conquered and maintained their lands without aid or commission from the State's ruler, but on their own score and venture; they nevertheless pay tribute to the State's Chief and are subject to his general authority. Such are the Chiefs of Sikar in Jaipur, of Nimrana in Alwar, of Fathgarh in Kishangarh (though he pays no tribute), and of Khusalgarh in Banswara, through the last-mentioned Chief (who also holds lands of Ratlam) has been withdrawn from direct subordination to Banswara. The Bhil Chiefs of the Mewar hill tracts belong to a slightly different category, though they assert internal independence of Udaipur; and the Thakur of Lawa, a small feudatory, has, for peculiar reasons, been declared separate from Tonk, to which he was subordinate up to 1870. Besides these minor or mediatized Chiefships, there are other gradations of status and privilege; but their classification becomes indistinct as it descends, shading off into the great estate-holder and head of a branch family of the Chief's blood, with high rank and formal hereditary privileges rather than separate political jurisdiction. . . .

The remaining three States of the first class, not being under Rajput Chiefs, are of a different origin and growth. The State of Tonk was formed out of the convention which allowed the famous Amir Khan to hold certain lands which he possessed in 1817; it consists

* See page 46.

of six separate districts, of which three only are within the administrative province of Rajputana. The Jat States of Bharatpur and Dholpur are the other two; the first is governed by the descendant of the hold and adroit land-holders who raised themselves to the rank and power of territorial Chiefs during the confusion of the eighteenth century; the second, Dholpur, is the territory remaining with a family that had gained distinction earlier, though it first acquired political independence in the same century and under similar circumstances. But, whereas the Bharatpur Chief kept his territory intact, and even increased it during the contest between the Mahrattas and the English at the beginning of this century, the Dholpur Chief in the same period lost a great part of his acquisitions. These two States, lying as they do outside Central India, did not fall within the range of the treaties of 1817-18. These States, therefore, are governed each by a family of the Jat tribe, which gives to that particular tribe a sort of precedence and privilege in the State, but their constitution is by no means tribal in the meaning with which that word applies to the territory of a Rajput clan. In Tonk the descendant of Amir Khan is an autocratic Nawab of the ordinary Indian type.

It has been explained that the existing Rajput States trace their historic descent from the ancient tribal settlements in this part of India; and as they differ in origin from the great majority of States in other parts of the Empire, so do they in political constitution. A Rajput State, where its peculiar structure has been least modified, means the territory over which a particular clan or division of a clan claims dominion for its Chief and political predominance for itself by right of occupation or conquest. A Rajput Chief is the head of a clan which have for many centuries been lords of the soil, or of the greater part of it, lying within the State's limits, and, as a ruler, instead of being an absolute despot, he exercises a jurisdiction more or less limited over an aristocracy consisting principally of his kinsmen and connections, while in the cities and throughout the districts not within the estates of the great fief-holders his authority is absolute. In the Western States, where the original type is best preserved, the dominant clans are still much in the position which they took up on first entry upon the land; and there we find all the territory (with exceptions in favour of particular grantees) still parcelled out among the Rajputs, mainly among the branch families of the dominant clan and their offshoots. All over the west it would be difficult to find a single important estate not held by a Rajput. The supreme governing authority in a Rajput State is, of course, in the hands of the hereditary Chief of the dominant clan, who is supposed to be the nearest legitimate descendant in direct male line from the founder of the State, according to the genealogy of the tribe. But even primogeniture has been required to qualify up to a low standard of competency; and when direct heirs fail, the Chief may be chosen from any branch of the stock group, the choice sometimes going from one branch to another according to critical needs and circumstances. The right of adoption by a Rajput Chief of his successor according to law and customs, on failure of natural heirs, has been formally recognized by the British Government. When the succession is disputed, the Imperial Government is often forced to step in and arbitrate and decide. The interior economy of a complete Rajput family has often suggested the analogy of feudalism, though in fact there are essential differences. There is, however, a chain of mutual authority and subordination which runs from the Chief by gradations downwards to the possessor of one or more villages. The lands are for the most part divided off and inherited among the branch families of the dominant clan, some considerable estates being held by families of a different clan who have come in by marriage or by anterior settlement in the country. Very large estates are held by the hereditary heads of the branch septs which have spread out from the main stock and by kindred families which are as houghs to the great branches. These estates are owned and inherited by Chiefs, who much resemble the State Chief in miniature, where they are strong and independent. The relations of these minor Chiefs to the State Chief differ very much in different States; in the best-preserved States of the west and south-west they exercise almost complete jurisdiction each within his own domain proper; and their obedience to any unusual command of the State Chief depends on his power to enforce it. They pay him certain dues or assessed contributions rated upon their income and regulated by immemorial custom; they are bound to render military service against the foreigner and against rebels, to make additional emergent contributions in war time; and their lands are usually rated at so many horsemen or footmen to be furnished yearly for the ordinary public service. The number of followers to be maintained may depend on the value of the land and upon the rank and consequence of the estate-holder. At every succession to an estate the heir is bound to do homage to the Chief and to pay a fine of some value—these acts being essential to entry into legal possession of his inheritance. He also pays some customary dues of a feudal nature and is bound to personal attendance at certain periods and occasions. In the States of the west, belonging to the Rahtor and Sesodia clans, the domains of all the subordinate Chiefs are rated at a certain valuation of annual rent-roll; and for every thousand rupees a certain number of armed men must be provided for the State's service. In some States this service has been commuted for cash payment, but the great land-holders have usually resisted this change, which obviously tends to increase the Chief's power and to lessen their own. Disobedience to a lawful summons or order involves sequestration of lands, if the Chief can enforce it; but it is rare that an estate is confiscated outright and annexed to Crown lands, as the whole federation of minor Chiefs would be against such an absorption if there were any practical alternative. So long as the minor Chiefs fulfil their customary obligations, they hold their estates on conditions as well founded and defined as those on which the ruling Chief governs his territory, and their tenure is often just as ancient, and their authority within their own limits often as absolute.

In fact the system upon which the land is distributed among the branch families and other great hereditary land-holders is the basis of the political constitution of a Rajput State and forms its characteristic distinction. And this system is not, speaking accurately, feudal, though it has grown in certain States into something very like feudalism. The tenure of the

great clansmen involves military service and payment of financial aids, but its source is to be found in the original clan occupation of the lands and in the privileges of kinship and purity of descent from the original occupants or conquerors. The subordinate Chiefs really claim to be coparceners with the rulers in their right to dominion over the soil and to the fruits of it. Of course this constitutional principle has been much changed in practice in many of the States, especially since the Mahrattas disorganized Rajputana at the end of the last century. In the Eastern Rajput States, which were most exposed to the attacks of Mughal, Mahratta, and Pathan, the clan system has been much effaced politically, and some Chiefs have centralized their power so as to obtain almost absolute jurisdiction over the whole of their territories; moreover, the Rajputs are very few among the population of some of these States. In Kota the clan system was almost extinguished by Zalim Singh, who brought the land mainly under direct fiscal management and substituted his own armed police for the feudal contingents. In Bundi some relations of the Chief still hold large grants, but without any independent jurisdiction. Bhatnagar and Dholpur are Jat States in which the Chief's power is supreme, and in the Muhammadan State of Tonk the Rajput land-holders have been inevitably depressed while the Government is of the ordinary Muhammadan type. So that, whereas in the north and west a ruling Chief would hardly break through the compact front which his clansmen could at once oppose to any serious political encroachment and has a dubious jurisdiction within the domains of his leading kinsmen, in the east and south a Chief has his State more or less directly under his own executive power and a people of whom his clansmen form a small part. In the small Eastern State of Karauli, however, the clan system is still vigorous.

Around and below the great minor Chiefs and families are the kinsfolk, who belong to the same sept of the clan, and who hold land of more or less extent, either independently of their head or on a sort of grant from him. In Western Rajputana there are large tracts of lands held by groups of Rajput proprietors, who represent a settlement anterior to, or at least coeval with, that of the dominant clan, which settlement may have been either that of an alien clan that has kept its lands undisturbed, or of a distinct sept belonging to the ruling clan. Some of the alien clans have been brought in later by marriage alliances or by having come as a contingent to aid the Chief of the country in some hard-fought war or distant expedition, services for which they received an allotment of land. The heads of these alien families often hold high rank in the State.

The administrative business of a State usually falls into several different departments, which are under hereditary officials—a very important class, of which the members almost always belong to particular castes and families—rarely to a Rajput clan. In some States the highest offices belong by heritage to a great kinsman of the Chief; though these offices are apt to become honorary, as they have become in Europe, and the real power gets into the hands of very acute instruments of the Chief's good pleasure. It is often imprudent to place much authority in the hands of a leading noble; nor are the Thakurs usually qualified for the transaction of affairs, while they would rather look down upon official duties unless accompanied by very substantial rank and influence. In fact, the condition of internal government in Rajputana much resembles what has passed in Europe; the ruler seeks to strengthen himself at the cost of the nobles; the nobles are on the watch against the encroachments of the ruler; and the officials are the astute men of business, the *gens de la robe* of Europe, expert in law and finance, whose aid in such times has always been so essential to the ruler. As the tendency of all office in Rajputana is to become hereditary, and as the right of the children and relations of an official to be provided for in the public service is universally recognized, the Chief is always surrounded by a crowd of qualified claimants. Several of the official families are descended from persons of the writing or commercial caste, who accompanied the earliest immigration of the ruling Chiefs into the country.

The great estate-holders, called the Thakurs, live most of the year in their forts on their own lands, and in the west they manage their own domains with little State interference, distributing justice and collecting their taxes and rents. When some complainant has interest enough to get an appeal seriously taken up at head-quarters, or when some disorder or deed of notorious violence has created scandal, the ruling Chief interposes vigorously, though the matter is usually settled by a fine or a present. Where the Thakurs are most independent they go little to Court, though there is usually a fixed period when each man of rank is bound to attend on his Chief, and on great occasions they all assemble.

Where their separate status and power have been much reduced, they gravitate towards the level of privileged courtiers, whose places in the Chief's presence and at ceremonies are regulated by very minute etiquette. But a turbulent noble of the old school does not much enjoy a visit to Court, where there are usually long outstanding accounts to settle with astute officials; he goes there well attended by kinsfolk, and fences himself in his town house, where he occasionally stood a siege in the last generation, and was sometimes murdered. It may be said that all the internal disorders of Rajputana since 1818, which were serious and widespread, up to recent years, have been caused entirely by disputes between the ruling Chiefs and their nobles; the Chiefs striving to always depress and break down the power of the great kinsmen, the nobles being determined to restrict the strength of their ruler. The Mahratta invasion and usurpations had much diminished the strength of the State's ruler; on the other hand, the English supremacy is favourable to him, and the inclination of an English Government is naturally toward support of the central administration. Nor has the time of armed resistance by nobles to their Chief yet passed away in the west and south-west, where a Thakur will still, if aggrieved, hold out as long as he can in the ancestral fort, and if the fort is made too hot for him, take to the wilds with his kinsmen and become an outlaw and leader of banditti. Usually these proceedings end in compromise and reconciliation.

CHAPTER II.

RAHTOR STATES.

[*Jodhpur—Bikaner—Kishangarh.*]

As mentioned in the last chapter, the original capital of the Rahtor clan was Kanauj.

Origin of the Rahtor States.

On the capture of this city by Shahab-ud-din in 1194 A.D., the dynasty, which according to tradition ruled fourteen centuries, was expelled, and Sivaji, the grandson or nephew of Jey Chand, the last Chief, started on a pilgrimage to Dwarka. On his way he halted at Pali in Marwar, where, having won the favour of the local Brahmans by repelling bands of marauders, he eventually settled. He and his descendants grew in lands and power, until Chanda, the ninth in descent from Sivaji, was strong enough in 1382 to acquire Mandor, then the chief town of Marwar, by marriage from the Parihar ruler. Chanda was succeeded by his son Birmal and his grandson Jodha, who in 1459 founded the city of Jodhpur, which has since been the capital of the Marwar State. From Rao Jodha's fourteen sons and twenty-three brothers are descended the Chiefs and the principal nobles of Marwar and Bikaner, and by them and their followers the dominion of the Rahtors was established throughout the greater part of the territories now comprised in these States. From Raja Udai Singh (1588-94), the sixth in descent from Jodha, are descended the Chiefs of Kishangarh in Rajputana and of Rutlam and Sitamau in Central India, and from Maharaja Ajit Singh, the great-grandson of Udai Singh (1681-1725), are sprung the ruling families of Idar and Ahmednagar in Gujarat.

JODHPUR.

1. The present Chief of Marwar or Jodhpur is His Highness Raj Rajeshwar Maharaj Adhiraj (or Maharaja Dhiraj) Maharaja Sardar Singh Bahadur, the head of the Rahtor clan. Born at Jodhpur on the 11th February 1860, he succeeded his father, the late Maharaja Sir Jaswant Singh Bahadur, G.C.S.I., on the 24th October 1895, and was invested with ruling powers on the 18th February 1898. His grandfather, Maharaja Takht Singh, Chief of Ahmednagar, had obtained the Chiefship of Marwar by the choice of the widows of his predecessor Maharaja Man Singh and of the principal nobles and officials of the State. On the succession of Maharaja Takht Singh, Ahmednagar was transferred to the Chief of Idar, from which State it had been separated in 1784.

Maharaja Sardar Singh was married in February 1892 to the sister of the present Maharao Raja of Bundi, and has one son, Maharaj Kunwar Sumer Singh, who was born on the 14th January 1898 (and is heir-apparent of Jodhpur) and two daughters, who were born respectively on the 7th December 1899 and the 15th February 1901.

Near relatives.

The Maharaja has no brothers, but two of his uncles are alive, viz. :—

(1) Maharaj Dhiraj Colonel Sir Pratap Singh, G.C.S.I., K.C.B., and LL.D., who was born in 1845. He is a Colonel in His Majesty's Army and was an Aide-de-Camp to His Majesty when Prince of Wales. He has been Musahib Ala or Chief Minister of Marwar since 1878. In 1880 he accompanied the mission to Afghanistan, and in recognition of his services was created a Companion of the Star of India. He was promoted to a Knight Commandership of the same Order on the 1st January 1886, and visited England on the occasion of Her late Majesty's Jubilee in 1887. Ten years later, he again proceeded to England on the occasion of Her late Majesty's Diamond Jubilee, and was created a Grand Commander of the Star of India. The degree of LL.D. was also conferred on him by the University of Cambridge. He served on the staff of Generals Elles and Sir William Lockhart in the Mohmand and Tirah campaigns (in the latter of which he was wounded) and was made a C.B. and a Colonel in the British army and was awarded the frontier medal with two clasps. In 1900-01 he again served in China, and on his return in August 1901 was made a K.C.B.

(2) Maharaj Zalim Singh, who was born in 1865, was educated at the Mayo College, and holds the appointment of Assistant Musahib Ala. He has four sons* and possesses a jagir of five villages.

Of the Maharaja's deceased uncles, Maharaj Zorawar Singh has left three † sons, Maharaj Kishore Singh has left one son, Arjun Singh [who was born in 1876, is styled Maharaj, is Commander-in-Chief of the State forces (for which duties an annual salary of Rs. 12,000 has been sanctioned), and holds four villages in jagir], and Maharaj Bhopal Singh has left three ‡ sons.

The Maharaja has two illegitimate brothers, Sawai Singh and Tej Singh, and numerous illegitimate uncles and cousins, all of whom are known by the title of Rao Raja.

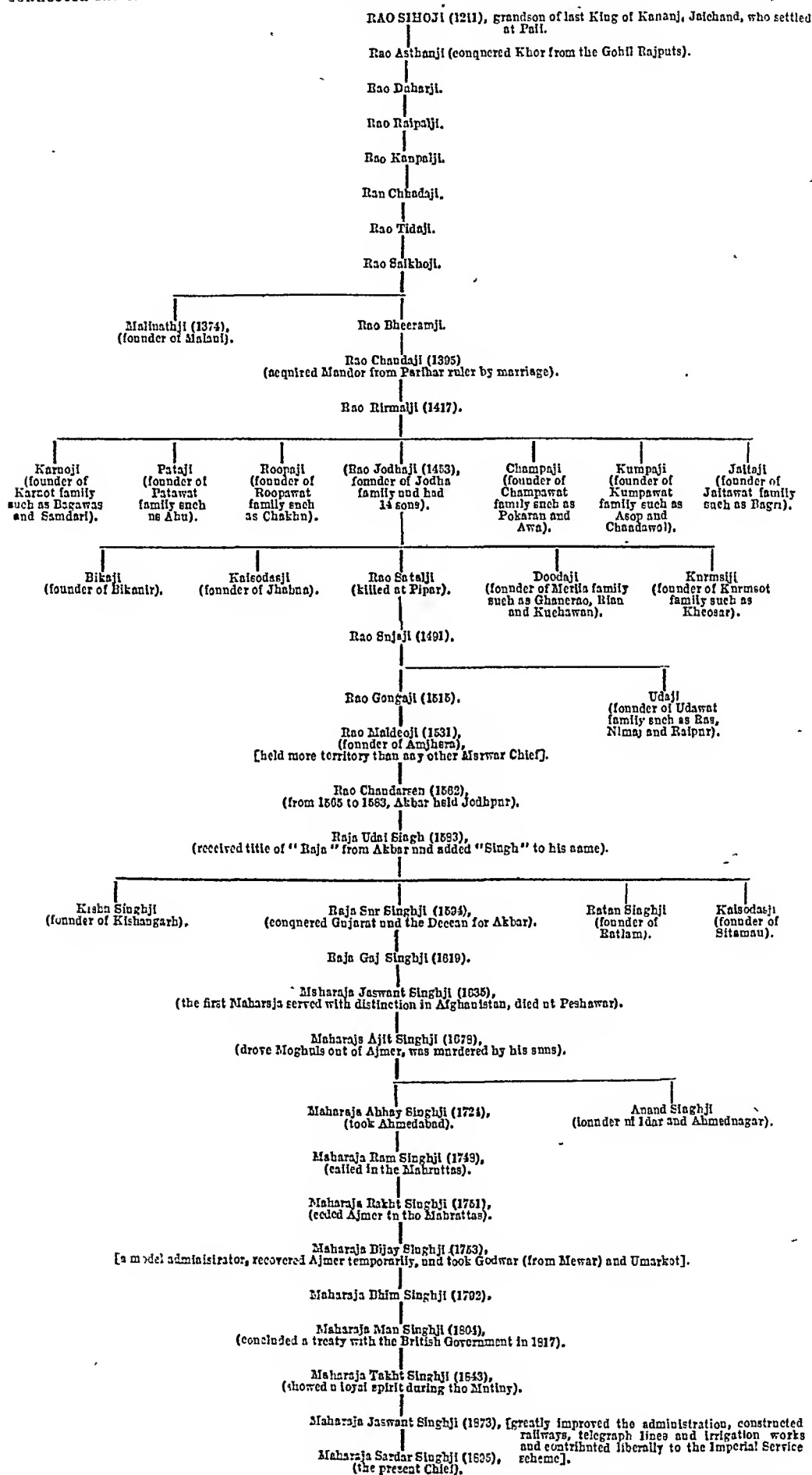
As shown above, the ruling family most closely connected with the Chief of Marwar is that of Idar, after which come, in the order named, Kishangarh, Rutlam, Sailana, Sitamau, Amjhera, Jhabua and Bikaner. His Highness the Maharaja's mother was a lady of the Narsingarh family. Besides this house, the following States are also connected by marriage with Jodhpur, viz., Udaipur, Jaipur, Bundi, Rewa, Sirahi, Jaisalmer, Jamnagar and Bhuj.

* Maharaj Bijay Singh, who has been given a separate jagir; and Kunwar Guman Singh, Hanc' Gaj Singh.

† Maharajas Fattah Singh, Sher Singh and Akhey Singh.

‡ Maharaj Daulat Singh, who has been given a separate jagir, and who is Military Ala and an Honourary Member of the State Council; and Maharajas Ratan Singh and

The following table shows the descent of the ruling Chief and of the most important connected families in and out of Marwar:—



II.—The leading men of Marwar fall into three classes: (1) the members of the ruling family who are known as Rajwis, (2) the hereditary nobles called Sardars, and (3) the chief officials or Mutsaddis. Of these, the first class has already been mentioned.

The hereditary nobles of distinction are styled Tazimi Sardars, that is, nobles who are entitled to the honour of recognition by the Chief in Darbar. They are 275 in number, of whom 223 are Rahtors descended from the ruling stock and 52 are connections by marriage belonging to other clans such as Bhatias, Ranawats, Kachhwahas, Chauhans and Deoras. These last are known as Ganayats.

The Tazimi Sardars are again sub-divided according to the degree of recognition which they are entitled to receive. Eighty-one Rahtors and twelve Ganayats belong to the first division, twelve Rahtors (known as Sarayats from their position in Darbar near the staircase) being held superior to the rest. The whole of the first class receive *dohri* (i.e., double) *tazim*, the Chief rising at their arrival and departure and giving the *hath-ka-kurab*. On the arrival in Darbar of a noble of this rank, the Maharaja stands up, the Sardar places his sword in front of him, bows and touches the hem of the Chief's garment. The Chief acknowledges the salutation by placing his hand on the Sardar's shoulder and drawing it back to his chest.

In the second division are comprised seventy-six Rahtors and twenty-five Ganayats who are also entitled to the *dohri tazim*, but instead of the *hath-ka-kurab* receive only the *banh pusao*, that is to say, the Chief after touching the Sardar's shoulder omits to draw his hand back to his chest. Sixty-six Rahtors and fifteen Ganayats receive only the single *tazim*, that is, the Chief rises on their arrival only.

The Jagirs of Marwar are all younger than the State. There is, however, a class of landholders known as Bhumias who differ from the nobles in that they pay a contribution towards the cost of the army (*faujhal*) and are not liable to military service. The Bhumichara tenure prevails throughout Malani and is common in the parganas of Sanchores and Jalore. The chief Bhumias' estates in the parganas last-named were founded before the Rahtor conquest.

In the case of all the *jagir* estates succession is by primogeniture, whereas in Bhumichara villages the rule of gavel kind is followed. The *Jagirdars* pay to the Darbar an annual revenue known as *rehk*, which amounts to 8 per cent. of the annual income. Military service is rendered at the rate of one horseman for each thousand rupees of revenue and one camel sowar and footman for each Rs. 700 and Rs. 500 respectively. In some cases this military service has been commuted for cash payments at the rate of Rs. 204 per horseman, Rs. 144 per camel sowar and Rs. 84 per footman. In times of emergency the *Jagirdars* are bound to serve the Darbar at their own expense with all their followers. The Thakur of Pokaran at present holds the office of *Pardhau*, by virtue of which he attests all grants of lands and villages made by the Darbar and is entitled to a seat on the *khawás* or behind the Maharaja on an elephant on all State occasions. As emoluments for this post he holds two villages, Manjal and Dundara. Two other persons, though not office-bearers, perform hereditary duties. The Thakur of Bagri marks the new Chief on his installation with blood drawn from his own thumb and binds on the Chief's sword, and the Barath of the village of Muundiar invokes blessings at the weddings and installation of a Chief, in return for which service he receives from the Darbar a robe of honour and an elephant.

III.—The following nobles are entitled by their position to separate notice:—

(1) Thakur Mangal Singh of Pokaran is a Rahtor of the Champawat sept descended from a brother of Rao Jodha. The family, which was originally settled at Bhinmal, came to Pokaran in the time of Maharaja Abhay Singh. The estate is situated some 90 miles north of Jodhpur, and comprises one hundred villages, yielding an annual income of about a lakh of rupees. It may however be noted that some of these villages, though entered in the *patta* of the estate, do not belong to the Thakurate. Thakur Mangal Singh was a son of the Thakur of Daspan, and was adopted by the late Thakur of Pokaran. He was born in 1869, was educated at the Mayo College, has passed the University Entrance Examination and is now a Member of the Council and the *Pardhan* of the State. He succeeded to the estate in 1877, and has four sons, Chain Singh, Sukh Singh, Kushal Singh and Ganga Singh.

(2) Thakur Pirthi Singh of Nimaj, a descendant of Rao Suja, through the latter's son, Udai, holds an estate of eleven villages situated about 60 miles south-east of Jodhpur, and yielding an income of about Rs. 70,000 a year. The Thakur, who was born in 1888, succeeded his father Chatar Singh in January 1901. His nearest relations are members of the Ramgarh, Morra, Saisra and Agewa families.

(3) Thakur Chain Singh of Asop, a descendant of Kumpa, a brother of Rao Jodha, holds an estate some 50 miles north-east of Jodhpur, consisting of seven villages yielding an annual revenue of about Rs. 30,000. The Thakur, who was born in 1861, is a son of Thakur Daulat Singh of Barni, and was adopted by his cousin, Thakur Sheonath Singh. He succeeded to the estate in 1873, and is now a Member of the State Council. He has one son, Fateh Singh (born 1883), and two brothers, Bheron Singh and Zorawar Singh.

(4) Thakur Bijay Singh of Rian, a Rahtor of the Mertia clan, holds eight villages, yielding an annual income of about Rs. 36,000. The Thakur, who was born in 1872, succeeded his father Thakur Gambhir Singh in 1878. He was educated at the Mayo College, and has one brother, Fateh Singh, and four uncles, Lachman Singh, Bhagwat Singh, Mul Singh and Rimal Singh. The families of Bikharnia, Bijathal and Dabri are closely connected with Rian.

(5) Thakur Pratap Singh of Awa, a Champawat Rahtor, holds an estate of fifteen villages situated south-east of Jodhpur, and yielding about Rs. 30,000 a year. Born in 1885, the Thakur succeeded to the estate on the death of his father Thakur Shambhu Singh in February 1897. He has one brother, Dalpat Singh, and one uncle, Sheodan Singh, Thakur of Lambian. His great uncle, Ranjit Singh, is the Thakur of Rohat.

(6) Thakur Fateh Singh of Ras, a Rahtor Rajput, descended through Udaiji from Rao Suja, holds an estate of seventeen villages situated 70 miles east of Jodhpur, and yielding about Rs. 60,000 a year. Two villages with an income of about Rs. 2,500 have been assigned to the uncles of the Thakur. Fateh Singh was born in 1874, and succeeded his father Thakur Pratap Singh. The latter was a Member of Council up to 1868. The Thakur's brother, Bhopal Singh, has been adopted by the Thakur of Agewa. He has a nephew, Hanwant Singh, two uncles, Hamir Singh and Balwant Singh, and a cousin, Mehtab Singh.

(7) Thakur Hari Singh of Raipur is also descended from Rao Udai. His estate consists of 37½ villages lying 6½ miles east of Jodhpur, and their annual income is about Rs. 90,000. Three of the villages have been assigned for the maintenance of the Thakur's brothers, and three more to servants of the estate as a reward for good service. Hari Singh, who was born in 1863, is the nephew and adopted son of the late Thakur Lachman Singh, whom he succeeded in 1879. His nearest relations are his uncle, Bane Singh, and his cousins, Madan Singh, Ram Singh, Gobardan Singh and Sohan Singh. The families of Rampura, Lilamba and Milawa are closely connected with Raipur.

(8) Thakur Fateh Singh of Kherwa, a Rahtor, descended from Rao Jodha, the founder of the State. He owns an estate of eleven villages lying 50 miles south of Jodhpur, and yielding an annual income of about Rs. 30,000. He was born in 1887, and succeeded his father in the following year: during the minority the estate is managed by the Court of Wards. The late Thakur Lachman Singh, whose services in the Mutiny gained him the title of Rao Bahadur from the British Government, was, like his predecessor, Thakur Sanvaut Singh, a member of the State Council.

The Thakur, who has no near relatives, is connected with the families of Balara, Butis and Babra.

(9) Thakur Sheodan Singh of Bhadravan, a descendant of Rao Jodha, was born in 1877. He was formerly Thakur of Rama, and succeeded the late Thakur Pratap Singh of Bhadravan (with whose family he was closely connected) in 1899. His estate of twenty-seven villages, situated some 48 miles south of Jodhpur, yields an annual income of about Rs. 45,000.

(10) Thakur Bhopal Singh of Agewa is the younger brother of the present Thakur of Ras. He was born in 1874, and was adopted by the late Thakur Bakhtawar Singh of Agewa, whom he succeeded in 1897. The estate consists of three villages situated some 56 miles to the east of Jodhpur, and is worth about Rs. 25,000 a year. The Thakur is connected with the families of Ras, Nimaj, Morra and Lambian.

(11) Thakur Arjun Singh of Kantalia is a Kumpawat Rahtor, descended from a brother of Rao Jodha. His estate consists of 11½ villages, yielding some Rs. 16,000 a year. The Thakur was born in 1861, and succeeded the late Thakur Gordhan Singh by adoption. His original family was that of Dndor. His nearest relation is Jawahir Singh of Sardarpura, and he is connected with the Asop and Chandawal families.

(12) Thakur Sheo Singh of Alniawas, a Mertia Rahtor, descended from Duda, brother of Rao Suja. The estate consists of four villages 80 miles east of Jodhpur, and yielding about Rs. 11,000 a year. Sheo Singh, who was born in 1879, belonged originally to the Jalsu family, and succeeded to the estate in 1888. He was educated at the Mayo College; he has no near relatives.

The *Jagirdars* of $\frac{\text{Rian}}{2}$ and $\frac{\text{Jalsu}}{1}$ are his nearest connections.

The twelve Sardars abovementioned are all Sarayats (see *supra*). None of them hold any estate under the British Government.

There is one more Thakur that should be noticed, namely:—

Thakur Sher Singh of Kuchawan, a Mertia Rahtor, descended from Thakur Zalim Singh (ninth in descent from Rao Jodha). The estate consists of 14½ villages situated some 140 miles to the north-east of Jodhpur, and yielding an annual income of about Rs. 54,200. The Thakur was born in 1836, and is a Member of the State Council. He received the title of Rao Bahadur from the British Government on the 28th May 1900. He has got a son, Bagh Singh, who was born in 1859, and was educated at the Mayo College; he has also two grandsons, Nahar Singh and Umed Singh, the latter of whom succeeded to the estate of Panchota. The Thakur's father was Kesri Singh, a C.I.E. and a Rao Bahadur, who died in 1890. The family is connected with Dodianna, Lapolai and Nimbi.

The following are the most prominent officials in Marwar:—

(1) Mahta Sardar Mal is styled Dewan of the State, and is a Member of Council. He was born in 1838, and succeeded his father Mahta Bijay Singh, Rai Bahadur, on the death of the latter in 1892. He receives a yearly salary of Rs. 10,800, and owns two villages worth about Rs. 5,000 per annum. He enjoys the honour of single *tazim* at the hands of his Chief. His father, Bijay Singh, who originally came from Kishangarh in the time of Maharaja Man Singh, was at one time Hakim of Nagore and held the office of Dewan in 1851, 1868, 1872 and from 1876 till his death. His good services and ability were recognised by the British Government, who bestowed on him the title of Rai Bahadur.

(2) Kaviraja Murardan, Member of Council and head of the Faujdari (Criminal) Court, is by caste a Charan, and the Poet Laureate of Marwar. Born in 1833, he was at one time head of the Diwani (Civil) Court, and subsequently of the Appellate Court. In 1900-01 he was a Member of the Special Committee formed to carry on the administration during the absence in China of the Musahib Ala Sir Pratap Singh. He has received the honour of the *hak-kakurab* (already described) from his Chief; his annual salary is Rs. 7,560, and he holds seven villages in *jagir*, yielding about Rs. 15,000 a year.

(3) **Joshi Askaran**, Brahman by caste, was born in 1838. He was formerly City Kotwal, Kiladar and Dewan; he next held charge of the Record Office, and is now a Member of Council. He has received the single *tazim* and holds two villages worth about Rs. 6,000 in addition to his annual salary of Rs. 3,240.

(4) **Hanwant Chand**, by caste Bhandari, was born in 1836. He was formerly Residency Vakil, next Vakil in attendance on the Agent to the Governor-General, and is now Member of Council and Superintendent of the Appellate Court. He holds half a village in *jagir* and draws a salary of Rs. 4,320 a year.

(5) **Munshi Hira Lal** was born in 1829 and is by caste a Kayastha. He has held the posts of Vakil in attendance on the Agent to the Governor-General and Superintendent of the Court of Sardars. He is now a Member of Council. He is the hereditary Raj Munshi or Kharita-navis, and his salary is Rs. 2,400 a year.

(6) **Pandit Sukhdeo Prasad, Rao Bahadur**, is a Kashmiri Pandit, born in 1861. His father was Pandit Sheo Narayan, who was Private Secretary to the late Maharaja of Jodhpur and a Member of Council. He is a B.A., a Member of Council, Secretary to the Musahih Ala. In 1900-01 he was a member of the Special Committee. For his services to the Marwar State he received the title of Rao Bahadur from the British Government on the 25th May 1895, and for his special services during the famine of 1899-1900 he was granted on the 1st January 1901 the Kaisar-i-Hind medal of the 1st class. His annual salary is Rs. 9,600.

(7) **Pandit Dinanath** is the elder brother of Pandit Sukhdeo Pershad just mentioned. He was born in 1859. He has been Hakim of Nagore and is now a Member of Council, in charge of the *izlai ghair* (or Foreign Department) and Private Secretary to His Highness the Maharaja. He holds a village in *jagir* and has received the single *tazim* and gold anklet from the Darbar. His annual salary is Rs. 3,600.

(8) **Pandit Madho Prasad** is the uncle of Pandits Sukhdeo Prasad and Dinanath. He was born in 1851. He has been the Darbar Vakil in attendance on the Resident and Superintendent of Jalore, Godwar and other districts. He is now Superintendent of Malani and a Member of Council. His annual salary is Rs. 6,300.

(9) **Mr. Rhada Mull**, Barrister-at-law, is a Kayasth by caste, and was born in 1866. He succeeded his father, the late Rae Bahadur Hardyal Singh, as Superintendent of the Court of Sardars in 1894, and his salary is Rs. 7,200 a year.

(10) **Munshi Kishori Lal**, Kayasth by caste, was born in 1850. He was formerly an Inspector of Police in the Ajmer district. He is Superintendent of Police on an annual salary of Rs. 3,300. For good work in Marwar the British Government granted him the title of Rai Bahadur on the 1st January 1892.

BIKANER.

The Chief of the Bikaner State is Major His Highness Maharaja Dhiraj Raj Rajeshwar Narendra Shiromani Sri Sir Ganga Singh Bahadur, K.C.I.E. His High-

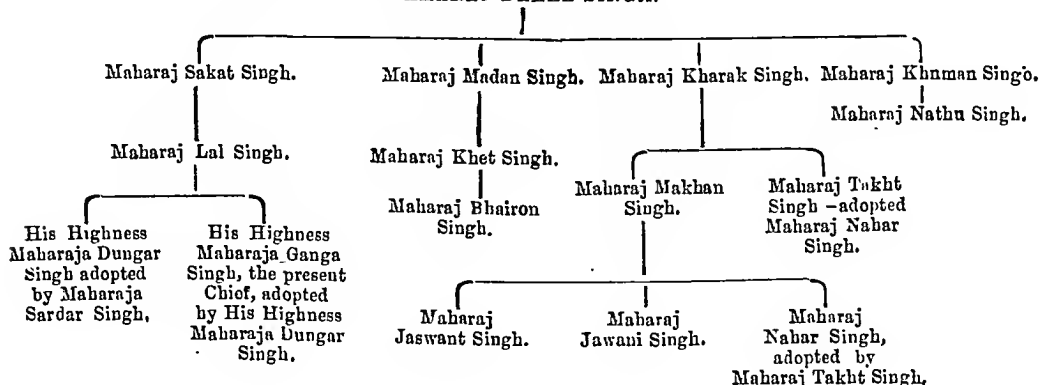
Chief.

ness, who was born at Bikaner on the 3rd October 1880, is a Rathor Rajput and is the adopted son of his elder half-brother, the late Maharaja Dungar Singh. The natural father of both the late and present Chiefs was Maharaj Lal Singh, a descendant of Maharaja Gaj Singh, who ruled Bikaner from A.D. 1745 to 1788. The eldest branch and a younger branch of Maharaja Gaj Singh's descendants occupied the *gadi* until the death of Maharaja Sardar Singh, the immediate predecessor and adoptive father of Maharaja Dungar Singh. Maharaja Ganga Singh succeeded to the Chiefship on the 31st August 1887. The Chief is married to the daughter of His Highness the Maharawat of Partabgarh, and to the daughter of

Relatives.

Thakur Sultan Singh, brother of Thakur Jeoraj Singh of Reri in Bikaner, and of the Thakur of Bhawad in Marwar. His Highness was invested with full ruling powers in December 1898 and took an active part in the Famine Relief operations of 1899-1900, for which he received the Kaisar-i-Hind decoration of the 1st class. On 13th June 1900, he was gazetted an Honorary Major in the British Army and is attached to the 2nd Bengal Lancers. He took part in the China Campaign, where he proceeded in August 1900 in command of his Imperial Service Regiment, and returned in December. In recognition of these services His Highness was created a Knight Commander of the Indian Empire. His nearest relations are his second cousins, the descendants of Maharaj Dalel Singh, a grandson of Maharaj Gaj Singh. Their relationship stands thus—

MAHARAJ DALEL SINGH.

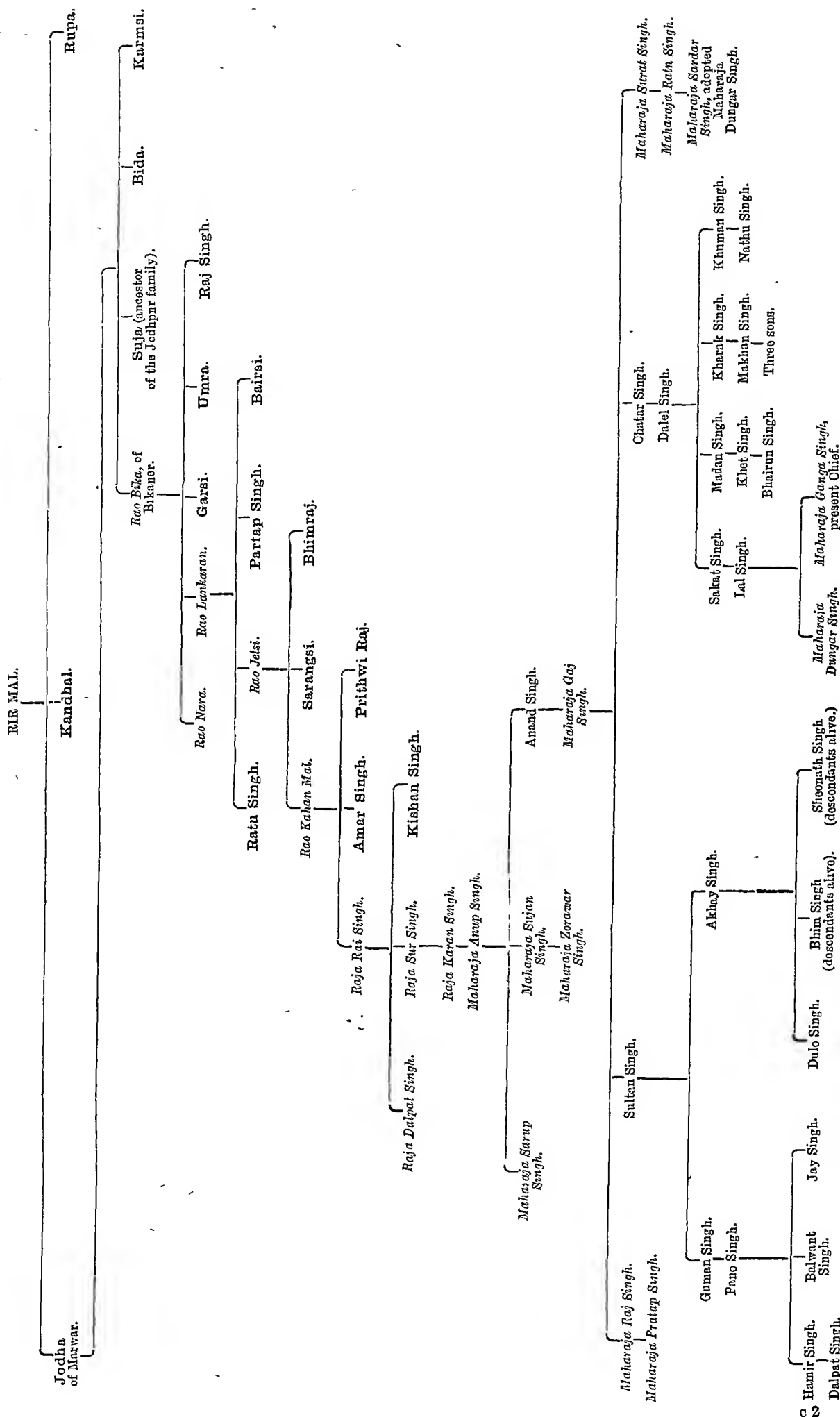


From the above genealogical tree it will be seen that the Chief's nearest relation is Maharaj Sri Bhairun Singh, born in the year 1879. He was educated at the Mayo College, Ajmer, and is a member of the State Council and Secretary to the Maharaja and President of the Devasthan Committee. He holds the *patta* of Khojra.

After these, the nearest relatives are descendants of Maharaja Gaj Singh through other lines. These are numerous. The present Chief is the fourteenth in descent from Rao Bika, the founder of the State, and the fifteenth in descent from Rao Jodha of Jodhpur, and is the

Marriages.

twenty-first occupant of the Bikaner *gadi*. The only important connections by marriage which have been formed in recent times by the ruling family are those with Udaipur, Alwar, Kachh, Bhuj, Partabgarh, and Rewa. Intermarriages between the Mewar and Bikaner ruling houses have been frequent in the past. The first on record was that of Rao Lunakaran, Rao Bika's successor, with a daughter of Rana Rai Mal, and the last that of Maharana Sardar Singh of Udaipur, with a sister of Maharaja Ratn Singh, which took place in 1839. Maharaja Sardar Singh in 1855 married a princess of Alwar, the daughter of Maharao Raja Bani Singh of that State. In the year 1876 Maharaja Dungar Singh married a princess of Kachh, a sister of the present Maharao. In 1882 Maharaja Sardar Singh married a daughter of the Maharawat of Partabgarh, and in 1886 he married a niece of the Maharaja of Rewa. In former times, also, several marriages took place with Jaipur and Jaisalmer. No lady of the Bikaner house has married into Jaisalmer since the reign of Maharaja Sur Singh (1613-31), who in consequence of the murder by the Bhatias of a son of his niece, the wife of Rawul Bhim, swore that no Bikaner princess should again go to Jaisalmer. This oath has been considered as binding by all his successors. The following is a brief abstract of the pedigree of the ruling family since the days of Rao Jodha :—



The names in antique are those of persons whose descendants are numerous and of some importance in the State.

The conquest of the State was commenced in 1465 by Bika, son of Rao Jodha of Marwar, and was carried out mainly by him, his brother Bida, and his uncle Kandhal. Rao Bika founded

Historical outline.

Bikaner city in 1465. Owing to combinations formed against them by disaffected Thakurs and external enemies, Bika's immediate successors had, until Rao Kalyan Singh succeeded to the *gadi* in 1541, much difficulty in keeping their hold on the territory which he had overrun. Kalyan Singh's efforts to consolidate his dominions were successful, and he left the State in good order to his son Rao Rai Singh. This Chief realized the advantage which would accrue to him from securing the support of the rulers of Delhi, and accordingly did homage at Ajmer to the Emperor Akbar, by whom he was employed in Gujarat and the Dakhan. In return for his services he received the title of Raja and a grant of fifty *parganas*, in which were comprised not only the whole of the present Bikaner State, but certain territories which are now included in Jodhpur and the Punjab, as well as a *jagir* in Gujrat. His grandson and great-grandson, Raja Karn Singh (A.D. 1631-69) and Raja Anup Singh (A.D. 1669-98) were also Generals of note. The former was long employed in the Dakhan, where he died and where he received from the Mughals the grant of a *jagir* situated in what is now the Nizam's territory. This *jagir* is still held by the Bikaner Chiefs. The title of Maharaja was conferred on Anup Singh by the Emperor Aurangzeb in recognition of the services rendered by him at the siege of Golconda. The present titles of the Bikaner Chiefs were conferred by the Emperor Shah Alam on Maharaja Gaj Singh in 1752.

The first intercourse that is known to have taken place between the British Government and Bikaner occurred in 1808, when Maharaja Surat Singh applied for protection against attacks from Jodhpur. This request was refused, but a prayer for help was granted in 1818 on the occurrence of an insurrection headed by the Thakur of Churu and supported from outside. A formal treaty was then signed with the Government of the Marquess of Hastings, by which the integrity of Bikaner was guaranteed and the Chief undertook to act in subordinate co-operation with the British Government and to form no connection with other Chiefs or States. Since that time, though there have been occasional internal difficulties, external troubles have ceased. During the Mutiny of 1857 the State rendered loyal service to the Supreme Government, and was rewarded in 1861 by the transfer to it, from the Sirsa district, of the *pargana* of Tihri, of which the Darbar had previously claimed possession.

Maharaja Surat Singh took his seat on the *gadi* in the year 1787, and was succeeded in 1831 by his eldest son Maharaja Ratn Singh, who died in 1852. His son and successor Maharaja Sardar Singh ruled till his death in 1872, when he was succeeded by his adopted son Maharaja Dungar Singh. The present Chief is the adopted son of Maharaja Dungar Singh.

The leading men of the State are either hereditary nobles, hereditary office-bearers, or imported officials. Of these the first class falls into four divisions: (1) descendants of families which were in Bikaner before the Rathor invasion at the end of the fifteenth century; (2) descendants of Bika, the first Chief, or of one of his uncles or brothers; (3) descendants of later Chiefs; and (4) descendants of persons related by marriage to former Chiefs.

Leading men.

Hereditary nobles.

The western and northern portions of the State were held at the arrival of the Rathors by Bhatias, who had wrested them in former times from the Pramars or Puars. There are at present some families of Puar Rajputs in the State, but these are of later origin and not of much importance. The older families are all extinct. One of the first acts of Rao Bika was to secure the neutrality of the Bhatias by marrying the daughter of their leading Chief, Rao Shaikha of Pangal. The Bhatias were subsequently stripped of a great portion of their possessions including the stronghold of Bhatner. They now hold only fifty-nine villages, of which thirty-one belong to the Rao of Pangal. The other leading Bhatias are the Thakur of Bithnok, the Rao of Jaimalsar, and the Thakurs of Kharbara and Satasar, but none of them has much influence. A daughter of the late Thakur of Satasar was married to Maharaja Dungar Singh and is now the senior Maharani. The largest estates are at present in the hands of members of the second and third divisions, namely, descendants of Rao Bika, of his uncles or his brothers or of subsequent Chiefs. The most important of them is the Thakur of Mahajan, a descendant of Ratn Singh, a son of Rao Lunkaran. Next to him come the Rawat of Rawatsar, who is descended from Rao Bika's uncle Kandhal, and the Thakur of Bhukarka, a descendant of Rao Jetsi, who hold respectively twenty-seven and twenty-eight villages. These, together with the Thakur of Bidasar, are known as *Sarayats* from the place near the staircase which they occupy in Darbar. The next largest estates are those of Jasana, Sidhmukh and Ajitpura, with twenty-five, eighteen, and sixteen villages, respectively, held by the Sarangot descendants of Rao Jetsi; Sankhu, with twenty-four villages held by Kishen Singhot descendants of Raja Rai Singh; and Rajpura, with nineteen villages of which the Thakur is descended from the Rao Jetsi through the latter's son Bhim Raj. The descendants of Rao Bika's brother Bida, known as Bidawats, hold what is termed the Bidabad territory near Sujangarh, which formerly belonged to the Mohel Rajputs. None of their estates are of great extent, the largest, Bidasar, comprising only twelve villages; but owing to their compact situation and to the strong family feeling which has generally prevailed among their owners, they form in the aggregate a body which has till recently been fairly able to hold its own against oppressions on the part of the Darbar.

At the beginning of the last century the principal land-holders of the State were the Thakur of Mahajan who, though shorn of a considerable portion of his possession, is still the

premier noble of Bikaner, and the **Thakurs of Bahadra and Churu**. The two latter were descendants of Khandhal of the Banirot and Saindasot lines, and their estates consisted of about a hundred villages and eighty villages respectively. The Banirots were expelled from Bhadra by Maharaja Surat Singh in 1818, and the Saindasots from Churu by Maharaja Sardar Singh in 1854 after long-continued struggles with the Darbar. The heads of both families received a few villages by way of maintenance, and are still looked up to as persons of importance. In the third division, also, are comprised the descendants of Maharaja Gaj Singh, who are known as **Rajwis** and hold some twenty-two villages. These persons are very numerous and their rank entitles them to notice, but they are greatly hampered by debt and are not of any political importance. The most noteworthy of them in recent years was Maharaj Lal Singh, who was for some time President of Maharaja Dungar Singh's Council, and who was the father of that Chief and of his brother, the present Chief. About thirty villages are held by members of the fourth division who are known as **Parsangis**. These are also individually unimportant.

The hereditary nobles are distinguished among themselves by their respective positions in Darbar and by the possession of the greater or lesser *tazim*, eighty-three enjoying the latter and twenty-eight the former honour. Succession among the *tazimi pattadars** is by primogeniture, and though in some branches partition used to take place, this is no longer the case. As a rule, a grant of villages or of land for cultivation is made to the younger sons. Some villages, and especially those held by Rajwis, are exempt from the payment of revenue. The rest pay revenue, which varies in amount in different estates, but is generally about one-third of the income. Originally this liability took the form of providing fighting men for the Chiefs,—cavalry in the case of the larger estates, and camelmen or footmen in that of the smaller. The obligation has now in all cases been commuted for a money payment. All *pattadars* on succeeding to their estates pay one year's revenue as *nazarana* (fee on succession) to the Darbar. They also pay *neota* on a change in the Chiefship, as well as various other occasional charges. In return they receive from the Darbar presents (*rijbakhshish*) when marriages and funerals take place in their own families. Both the *neota* and *rijbakhshish* were till recently of uncertain amount, depending on the pleasure of the Chief and the strength of the Thakur. On the accession of the present Chief, the Council of Regency found it necessary to lay down a definite scale in both cases for its own guidance during the minority. What has been said above in regard to the Pungal, Mahajan, Churu, and Bahadra estates shows how the Darbar has in the course of continued struggles with the leading nobles strengthened its own position and weakened theirs. Colonel Powlett in his Gazetteer has expressed his opinion that there is no State in Rajputana in which the old feudal tenure has so nearly passed away and the power of the Chief is so absolute as in Bikaner. It has thus come about that no single noble is in a position to resist or even very seriously trouble the Darbar, though as lately as 1884 a combination of several rendered it necessary to send a brigade from Nasirabad to restore order. None of the nobles of Bikaner holds any estate from the British Government.

The hereditary office-bearers are the descendants of the men who accompanied Rao Bika from Jodhpur or of those who were introduced by subsequent Chiefs. Rao Bika's principal companions were Mahta Lal Singh and Lakhani Baid, Bar Singh Bachawat, Baga Mushraf, Gopal Bararia, Salaji Rath, Napa Sankhla, and Bela Parihar. The Baidas have frequently held the highest offices in the State, such as those of Dewan and Vakil, and have received much honour from the Darbar. Thakursi Baid was Dewan in the time of Raja Rai Singh and was subsequently Governor of Bhatner fort. His descendant, Hindu Mal, was Vakil at Delhi in 1833, and received from Maharaja Ratn Singh the title of Maharao, which is still held by the head of the family. Members of the family held the office of Dewan under Maharajas Ratn Singh, Surat Singh, Sardar Singh, and Dungar Singh.

The descendants of Bar Singh Bachawat rose to considerable importance, but were exterminated by Raja Sur Singh (1613-31), with the exception of one boy, who was absent with his mother's family at Udaipur.

Salaji Rath's descendants hold at present several minor posts. One held the office of *Lekhan* (writer of grants) under Raja Rai Singh, and his son Kalyan Das was Dewan to Raja Sur Singh. Mahta Makau Rai of the same family was Dewan to Maharaja Anup Singh, and Ram Lai Dwarkani to Maharaja Sardar Singh. The descendants of Napa Sankhla held the post of *Kiladar* (Castellan) of Bikaner till the time of Raja Sur Singh, whose displeasure they incurred. Many of them were killed and the rest fled to Marwar. Bela Parihar was the founder of a numerous family, of which two branches have been continuously employed, the first in the care of the Raj horses and the other in personal attendance on the Chiefs. They are known as Sahnis and Parihars respectively.

When Raja Rai Singh went to Jaisalmer in 1595 to marry the daughter of the Rawal, he brought back with him two officials of note, Karamsi Rakhicha, whom he placed in charge of his wardrobe and jewellery, and Kallaji Tosniwal Kothiari. To the former family belonged Madan Chand, Dewan to Maharaja Ratn Singh, and Lachi Ram and his sons, Man Mal and Gyan Mal, who were all Devans to Maharaja Sardar Singh on several occasions. A son of the last-named, Mahta Mangal Chand, was a member of the Council of Regency. Kallaji was an inhabitant of Nagor and was placed on his arrival in Bikaner in charge of the fixed establishments (*Karkhanajat*).

* The grant by which an estate is held is termed a *patta*, and the grantee is styled a *pattadar*.

Raja Sur Singh, on his return from his marriage at Phalodi, was accompanied by Urja Kollar and Sidhayaeh Kishnaji. The former of these was placed in charge of the Raj *Daftar* or Secretariat, and his descendants are considered to have a claim to service. To the latter was assigned the care of the library which is one of some celebrity. His descendants hold villages in the State. The title of *Kaviraj* (or Court Poet) was conferred on them by Maharaja Sardar Singh, who also granted them the honour of the greater *lacim*. Since the arrival of the family in the State the compilation of the annals of Bikaner has been entrusted to them. The principal source of information in all matters relating to Bikaner history is the *kayant* composed by Dayal Das, who died at a very advanced age.

Raja Karn Singh married a lady from Rampur, and brought with him Khianji Rampuria, to whom was entrusted the duty of copying all State grants. This duty is still performed by his descendants.

With Maharaja Anup Singh came the ancestor of the present hereditary copyists of *khairats* or complimentary letters, and of the Darbar Treasurer. Other minor officials are descended from persons who were brought into the State by Maharajas Gaj Singh and Surat Singh.

Of the new officials of the State some have been lent by the British Government, some have been employed from outside, the rest are local people.

Of the hereditary nobles given in the preceding paragraphs, the following may be mentioned:—

(1) Thakur Hari Singh of Mahajan, a Rathor Rajput of the Ratn Singhot family of the Bika clan, is the premier noble of Bikaner. His estate, which lies in the northern portion of the Lunakarsar *pargana*, consists of ninety-seven villages, of which the estimated annual value is Rs. 64,000.* It pays a yearly revenue to the State of Rs. 15,257. The present Thakur, Hari Singh, born in the year 1877, was educated at the Mayo College, Ajmer. He is now a member of the State Council and the Officer, Court of Wards. The last Thakur but one, Amar Singh, was suspected of being concerned in a supposed attempt to poison Maharaja Dungar Singh in 1874, and was deposed by the Darbar, the estate being made over to his eldest son, Ram Singh. Thakur Ram Singh, who received and afterwards forfeited the title of Rao Raja, held the estate till 1883, when he was removed and banished under the orders of the Government of India for his share in the revolt against the Chief which took place in that year. Being childless, Thakur Ram Singh was allowed to adopt his brother Sheonath Singh's son, Hari Singh, the present Thakur. Thakur Ram Singh, who resided during his banishment with his sister's husband, His Highness the late Maharawal Bairi Sal of Jaisalmer, was allowed to return to Bikaner in 1888, but was obliged to live at the capital. Subsequently he has been allowed to return to his *patta* village owing to bad and failing health. Thakur Hari Singh's nearest relatives are his real father, Thakur Sheonath Singh, and his uncles, Thakurs Bakhtawar Singh and Bhupal Singh. The last named was for a time Commandant of the Imperial Service Troops of the State.

(2) Rawat Man Singh of Rawatsar is a Rathor Rajput of the Kandhlot clan descended from Kandhal, uncle of Rao Bika and brother of Rao Jodha of Jodhpur. His estate consists of twenty-eight villages and lies to the west of the Nohar Tahsil. The annual income is about Rs. 30,000, and the revenue payable to the Darbar is Rs. 10,481. The estate with the title of Rawat was conferred on Raghu Das for his services in the Dakhan and Gujarat with Raja Rai Singh. The late Rawat, who was sixteenth in descent from Kandhal, was the son of Rawat Ranjit Singh, who died in 1885. He died in 1893 at the age of about twenty-two years, and was succeeded, after a short interval, by his posthumous son, Man Singh. The estate is under the management of the Court of Wards.

(3) Thakur Kam Singh of Bhukarka, a Rathor Rajput of the Sarangot family of the Bika clan, holds an estate consisting of thirty-three villages in the north of the Nohar Tahsil. The estimated income of the estate is Rs. 24,700 and the revenue payable to the Darbar is Rs. 8,401. The Thakur is about thirty years of age. He succeeded his father Thakur Nathu Singh in 1900. The estate is said to have been originally conferred by Raja Rai Singh on Sarang, the ancestor of the family, in recognition of the good advice which he gave to his Chief to fight under Akbar in Kashmir where Raja Rai Singh rendered conspicuous service. Subsequently in 1735 Thakur Kishan Singh was instrumental in helping Maharaja Zorawar Singh to repel an attack from the Chiefs of Jodhpur and Nagor.

(4) Thakur Hukm Singh of Bidasar, a Rathor Rajput of the Keshodasot family of the Bidawat clan, is the head of the descendants of Bida. His estate, which consists of twelve villages only, is situated near Sujangarh in the region which formerly belonged to the Mober Rajputs and is now known as the Bidahad. The estate, which pays Rs. 5,570 as revenue to the Darbar, has an annual income of about Rs. 13,000. The present Thakur, Hukm Singh, born in the year 1877, was educated at the Mayo College. He succeeded his father Thakur Bahadur Singh in 1893, the latter having been deposed for his share in the coalition against the Darbar.

* The incomes of the *pattadars* are roughly estimated and cannot be relied upon as accurate.

which took place in that year. Thakur Bahadur Singh, who is a man of much intelligence, lived in banishment at Deoli until 1888, since which time he has been permitted to reside in Bikaner. He is now a Member of the State Council, the President of the Municipal Committee and in charge of Public Works Department. He is also a member of the Bikaner branch of the "Walter Krit Rajputra Hitkarini Sabha."

- (5) Rao Mahtab Singh of Pungal is a Bhati Rajput of the Pungalīya clan and is descended from Rao Shaikha, who, as noticed above, was in possession of all the western portion of the Pungal.

State when the Rathor invasion took place, and whose daughter Rao Bika married. The estate, which is situated on the borders of Jaisalmer and Bahawalpur, now consists of thirty-one villages, and yields an annual income of about Rs. 22,000. It pays no revenue to the Darbar. The present Rao, born in 1866, is a son of the Thakur of Karnisar, a junior branch of the Pungal family. He was adopted by the late Rao Raghunath Singh, who died in 1890, and who, though he never occupied any prominent position in the State, was much respected.

- (6) Thakur Lal Singh of Churu is a Rathor Rajput of the Saindasot family of the Kandhlot clan. As already mentioned, the Churu Churu.

- estate was formerly one of the three more important in Bikaner and consisted of about eighty villages. The heads of the house were generally in opposition to the Darbar which, owing to their distance from head-quarters, was not in a position to control them effectively. The late Thakur was finally reduced to subjection in 1856 and was deprived of his estate, five villages being given to him for maintenance. The income of these is small and they are not liable to payment of revenue. The present Thakur was born in 1848 and is much respected. He has been a Member of the Council since 1890. He has three sons. His first cousin, Thakur Pane Singh of Buchawas, was Superintendent of the *Girai* or Police Department.

- (7) Thakur Moti Singh of Sandwa, a Rathor Rajput of the Manohar Dasot family of the Bidawat clan, has an estate consisting of ten villages, which yield an annual income of about

Rs. 12,500. The revenue payable to the Darbar is Rs. 4,300 a year. Thakur Moti Singh succeeded his adoptive father Thakur Hir Singh in 1892. The late Thakur was implicated in the disturbance of 1883, and his fort was demolished. He was subsequently allowed to rebuild it. At the time of his death he was a Member of the Council of Regency.

- (8) Thakur Jagmal Singh of Bae, a Rathor Rajput of the Sarangot family of the Bikawat clan, holds an estate of fifteen villages, which yields an income of about Rs. 22,550 and pays

an annual revenue of Rs. 7,201. The estate is situated in the north-eastern portion of the State between Sardarshahar and Bhadra. The *pattadar* was appointed a Member of the Council of Regency on the accession of the present Chief and held that post till his resignation in 1890.

- (9) Thakur Jewraj Singh of Reri, a Tanwar Rajput, holds four-and-a-half villages chiefly in the Dungargarh Tahsil, which yield a revenue of about Rs. 7,500 and pay no revenue

to the Darbar. This Thakur was the uncle (mother's brother) of the late Chief, Maharaja Dungar Singh, and so became a person of some prominence. His daughter has been married to His Highness the Maharaja of Jaipur. (See page 60.)

Of the Rajwis no single individual calls for special notice. The head of the family by seniority is Maharaj Pane Singh, a great-grandson of Maharaja Gaj Singh. This Chief left a number of sons, and at his death the eldest, Maharaj Raj Singh, succeeded him. After the funeral rites had been performed, some of the other brothers, including the second, Sultan Singh, who had recently tried to capture Raj Singh, fled. Maharaja Raj Singh died ten days later and was succeeded by his son Partap Singh, a boy of six years of age. Surat Singh, Maharaja Raj Singh's third brother, managed the affairs of the State and very shortly afterwards on the death of Maharaja Partap Singh in 1787 established himself on the *gadi*. His elder brother of the whole-blood, Chatar Singh, made no objection. The Chiefship remained in this line till the death of Maharaja Sardar Singh, who adopted Maharaja Dungar Singh, a descendant of Maharaja Gaj Singh's third son, Chhatar Singh. The children of the elder branch, descendants of Sultan Singh, have thus remained excluded from the succession. Sultan Singh himself, after leaving Bikaner, fled to Udaipur, where he died, leaving two sons, Guman Singh and Akhay Singh. These subsequently came to Bikaner and received a revenue-free grant of villages.

Individual office-bearers.

Of the hereditary office-bearers, the following may be noticed:—

- (1) Mahta Bhairun Dan, the adopted son of the late Mahta Mangalchand. He is the officer in charge of Bara Karkhana and is a member of the Bikaner branch of the Walterkrit Rajputra Hitkarini Sabha.

Of the Baid Family the leading members are, (2) Rao Chhatar Singh, and (3) Mahta Abhay Singh, Vakil at Jodhpur. The following persons among others, belong to families which are considered to have a claim to employment: (4) Kaviraj Bhairun Dan, who served the State as Commandant of the Army, a member of the Council of Regency and Nazim, and who is now the Customs Officer, and (5) his son Omar Dan, Superintendent of Police, (6) Manmal Kochar, Tahsildar of Lunkaransar, and (7) his son Lunkaran, Tahsildar of Nohar, (8) Lakshmi Chand Kochar, pensioner, and (9) his son Nemi Chand, Assistant Officer, Court of Wards, (10) Tejkarani Rampuria, (11) Mohita Maganmal, Sub-overseer, and (12) Prohit

Zorawar Mal, Vakil at Jaipur, (13) Thakur Bakhtawar Singh, son of the late Sani Jeth Mal, Aide-de-Camp to Major His Highness the Maharaja.

New officials.

Of the new officers, it will suffice to notice the following :—

(1) Sahibzada Hamiduzzafar Khan, Khan Bahadur, is a connection of the Nawab of Rampur.

He has served the British Government in various capacities as Naib Tahsildar, Tahsildar, Deputy Collector, Manager, Comt of Wards, and as Sub-Divisional Officer, Lalitpur. In 1891 his services were lent to the Rampur State, where he served as Secretary to the Regency Council and afterwards as Vice-President of the Council. In 1897 his services were placed at the disposal of the Bikaner Darbar as Vice-President of Regency Council, and on His Highness's being invested with full ruling powers he was made Dewan of the State. He received the title of Khan Bahadur on 1st January 1896.

(2) Mr. R. D. Cooper, Private Secretary to the Maharaja, who is a Parsi, has been in the State service since 20th February 1895, and served from 20th February 1895 to 25th August 1895 as Inspector of Schools, and after that till 30th March 1897 in the Regency Council, and from 1st April to 8th December 1898 as Assistant to the Maharaja's Guardian. On His Highness's investiture with full ruling powers, he was appointed Private Secretary, which appointment he still holds. He accompanied His Highness to China in 1900-01, and served there as Base Officer attached to the Bikaner Camel Corps.

(3) Rao Bahadur Thakur Dip Singh Bahadur, Aide-de-Camp to the Maharaja, is a Rathor Rajput of Gharsisar. He comes of the Gharsiot family of the Bikaner clan. He is Commandant of the Bikaner Imperial Service Camel Corps and was educated at the Mayo College, Ajmer. In the Diamond Jubilee year he represented the corps in the Cavalry guards of honor sent to London, and was decorated then with the Order of British India, 2nd Class. He was made a Rao Bahadur in 1896, and received the Kaiser-i-Hind Medal of the 2nd Class for his services in connection with the Famine of 1899-1900. He went to China with the Regiment in 1900-01. He has since been appointed Native Adjutant to the Imperial Cadet Corps.

(4) Babu Kamta Prasad, B.A., is a Kayastha of the Benares District. He has been in the Bikaner Darbar's service since 1st April 1898 and served as Head Master, Darbar High School, and temporarily as Assistant to the Dewan. He is now Assistant Private Secretary to the Maharaja.

(5) Munshi Brij Basi Lal, a Kayastha of Agra, is the Judge of the Appeal Court. He is a pensioned official of Government, being formerly employed in the North-Western Provinces High Court.

(6) Pandit Jisukh Ram has been in Bikaner Darbar's service since July 1884 and has served as Tahsildar and Assistant Revenue Officer. He was previously in Government service as a Muharrir Kanungo in the Sirsa District. He is now Deputy Revenue Officer in the State.

(7) Seth Nemi Chand has been in the Darbar's service since 1884 as Civil Judge, Customs Officer, Member of Council and Nazim. He is now Accounts Officer.

(8) Munshi Abdussamad Khan belongs to a family of Desval Pathans of Ajmer. He is a retired Government Police Inspector of Ajmer and has been in the State service since July 1894. He is Superintendent General of the State Police.

(9) Thakur Kishor Singh is a Bidawat Sardar, and served as Inspector of Police. He is now Vakil at Abu.

(10) Babu Nihal Singh served as Inspector of Schools, Naib Mir Munshi and Mir Munshi of the Council. He has been in State service since 1889, and is now Nazim of Bikaner.

(11) Munshi Sitaram has been in the State service since 1884 as Kanungo, Naib Tahsildar, Assistant Manager, Court of Wards, Tahsildar, Assistant Revenue Officer. He is now Nazim of Reni.

(12) Munshi Mohamad Husain, son of the late Dewan Amin Mohamad, has been in Darbar's service since 1888 as Officer Baqaya, Munsiff, Manager, Court of Wards, and Tahsildar. He is now Nazim of Sujangarh.

(13) Munshi Lalji Mal has been in Bikaner Darbar's service since 1885 as Ahalmad, Sarishtadar of the Appeal Court, Naib Tahsildar and Tahsildar. He is now Nazim of Suratgarh.

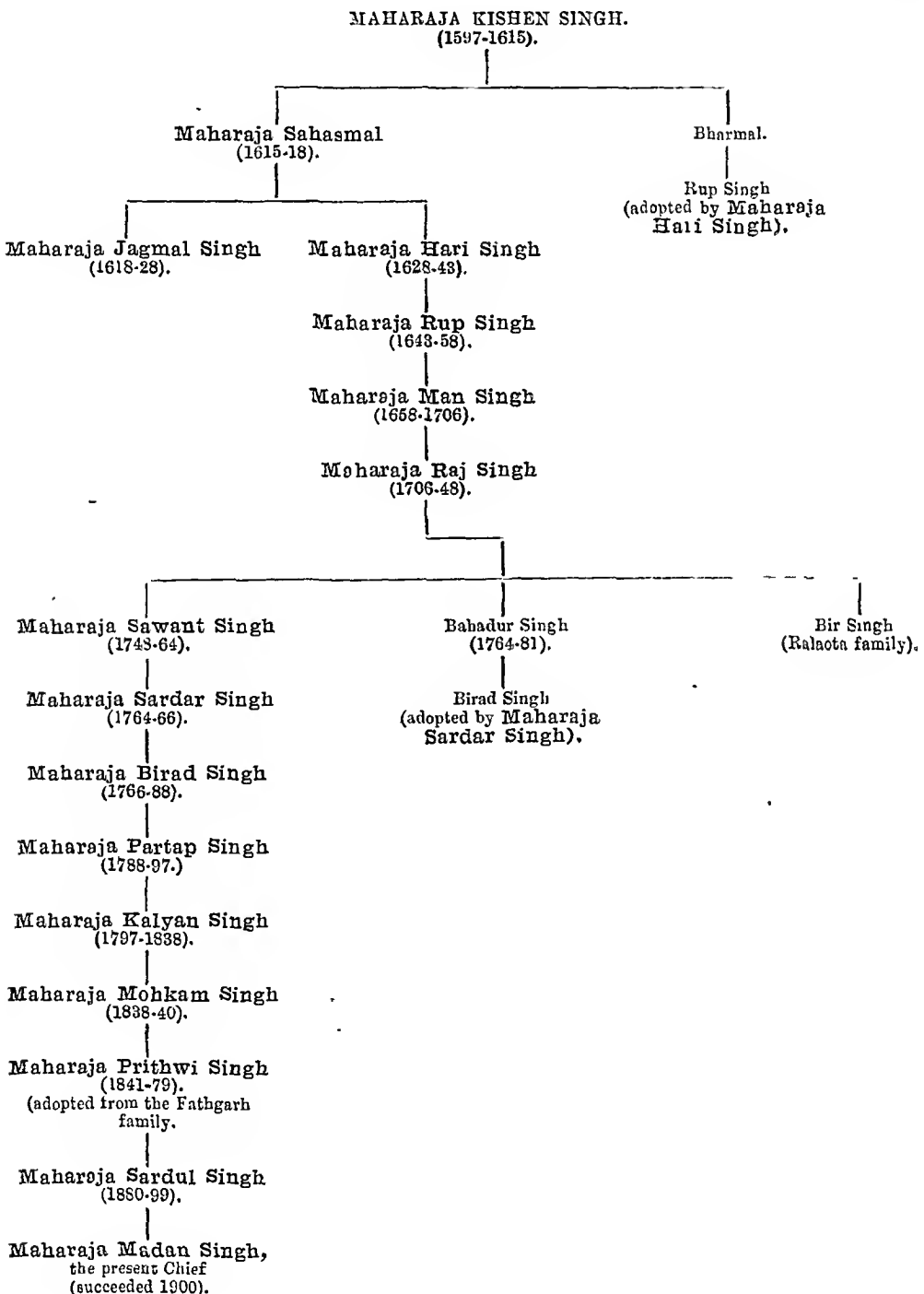
KISHANGARH.

The Chief of the Kishangarh State is His Highness Maharaja Adhiraj Maharaja Madan Singh Bahadur. He was born on the 1st November 1884, and succeeded his father the late Maharaja Sir Sardul Singh Bahadur, G.C.I.E., on the 29th August 1900. He was betrothed to the fourth daughter of the present Chief of Udaipur, but the young lady died on the 19th August 1901. The Maharaja is a Rathor Rajput and a descendant of the conqueror

of the State and the founder of the city of Kishangarh, Kishen Singh, the second son of Maharaja Udai Singh (1583-94) of Jodhpur. The State was confirmed to Kishen Singh by the Emperor Akbar in 1594. The Maharaja is by religion a Hindu of the Ballabkull Vaishnav sect. His Highness has two uncles, Maharaj Jawan Singh and Maharaj Raghunath Singh, and one sister who is married to His Highness Maharaja Jai Singh of Alwar. The Thakurs of Fathgarh and Ralaota are distant relatives, being descended from former Chiefs of the State.

The Chiefships allied to Kishangarh by consanguinity are Jodhpur, Bikaner, Ratlam, Jhabua, Sailana, Sitamau, and Idar. Marriages have taken place between the Kishangarh family and the Sesodia houses of Udaipur and Partabgarh, the Kachhwaha houses of Jaipur and Alwar, the Hara houses of Bundi and Kotah, the Bhatias of Jaisalmer, the Jhalas, and the Shaikhawats. The late Maharaja's grandmother, widow of Maharaja Mohkam Singh, was daughter of Maharaj Kunwar Amar Singh of Udaipur, and his eldest sister was married to the late Maharana Sajan Singh. The second sister was married to the late Maharaja Mangal Singh of Alwar, the third sister was married to the present Maharaja of Jaipur, and the husband of the fourth is Zalim Singh, the *ex*-Maharaj Rana of Jhalawar. Maharaja Madan Singh's mother is a daughter of the late Maharao Umed Singh of Sirohi.

The following table shows the Chiefs of the Kishangarh family from its commencement:—



The first treaty with the British Government was made in the year 1818 by Maharaja Kalyan Singh.

The leading men of the State fall into three divisions—(1) the Rajwis and hereditary nobles, (2) the hereditary office-bearers, and (3) the non-hereditary officials.

Leading men.

Of the first division the principal are the Rajwis, the descendants respectively of Maharaja Prithwi Singh (the brothers of the ruling Chief), of Maharaja Bahadur Singh (the

Hereditary nobles.

Fathgarh family), and of Maharaja Rajsingh (the Ralaota family). After the Rajwis come a number of families of which the following are the chief:—

- (1) Bhuptots* and (2) Sakatsinghots,† descended from Bhupat and Sakat Singh, brothers of Maharaja Kishan Singh; (3) Jaganathots,‡ descended from the family of Parbatsar in Marwar; (4) and (5) Govindasots § and Ratnots,|| descended from grandsons of Maharaja Udai Singh of Jodhpur; (6) Karmasots,¶ descended from a son of Rao Jodha of Jodhpur; and (7) Chandawats.**

Among these the Rajwis take the first place, and after them nine nobles known as the *nau*, viz., the Thakurs of Naraina, Chosla, Kotri, Bhambolao, Pandarwara, Gothiana, the senior Thakur of Sinodia, and the Thakurs of Khatoli and Raghunathpura. With the exception of the Rajwis, none of the nobles hold large estates or are men of much note.

In the case of all the noble families, succession is by primogeniture, suitable provision being made for the maintenance of the younger sons. Service is rendered to the Darbar by *Jagirdars* who generally pay no other revenue.

The following are the leading nobles of Kishangarh:—

- (1) Maharaj Dikshit Jawan Singh of Karkheri, elder uncle to His Highness the Maharaja, holds an estate of eight villages, of which two are alienated, with an estimated income of

Karkheri.

Rs. 30,000. The estate was conferred on him by his father Maharaja Prithwi Singh in 1878. Maharaj Dikshit Jawan Singh was born in 1860, has received a good vernacular education, and is the author of several vernacular poems. He has a son born on 26th January 1896. The title of Dikshit was bestowed upon him in April 1895 by the late Maharaja.

- (2) Maharaj Raghunath Singh of Dhasuk, the Chief's younger uncle, holds an estate of six villages, with an estimated income of Rs. 20,000, of which, however, Rs. 8,500 are enjoyed

Dhasuk.

by the Thakurani and subordinate *Jagirdars*. The Maharaj, who was born in 1873, has received a fair vernacular education. He has no sons.

- (3) Maharaj Man Singh of Fathgarh, a descendant of Maharaja Bahadur Singh (1748-81), is one of the most important nobles of the State. He holds eighteen villages, with an annual

Fathgarh.

income of Rs. 50,000, of which more than half is alienated. The Maharaj was born in 1873, and succeeded his adoptive father Maharaj Govardhan Singh, his second cousin by blood, in 1883. He was educated at the Mayo College and has no sons or other relatives nearer than the Rajwis of Dhos, Zorawarpura and Kacholia who are descended from his great-great-great grandfather.

- (4) Raja Nonid Singh of Ralaota, who is descended from a younger son of Maharaja Raj Singh (1706-48), holds two villages of the estimated value of Rs. 10,000. The Raja

Ralaota.

was born in 1878. He succeeded his father Samrat Singh on the latter's death in 1900. He has two brothers, Sheodan Singh born in 1882, and Mul Singh born in 1889. He has no other relatives nearer than his father's second cousin, Rajwin Zorawar Singh.

- (5) Thakur Bahadur Singh of Bhambolao, a Rahtor Rajput of the Karmasot sub-clan, hold the first seat in Darbar among the *nine* leading nobles of Kishangarh. He has a service

Bhambolao.

jagir, with an estimated income of Rs. 5,000. He was born in 1885, and succeeded his father Thakur Jet Singh in 1901. He has two brothers, Nahar Singh and Indar Singh, born in 1888 and 1894, and an uncle named Gobind Singh. He has no other relatives nearer than third cousins.

- (6) Thakur Gopal Singh of Naraina, a descendant of Bhupat Singh, brother to Maharaja Kishan Singh, holds a service *jagir*, with an estimated income of Rs. 5,000. He was born

Naraina.

in 1884, and succeeded his father Thakur Sawai Singh in 1901. He has an uncle named Biradh Singh who has two young sons. After these the Thakur's nearest relatives are distant consins.

- (7) Thakur Gobind Singh of Sinodia, a Mertia Rahtor, is entitled to the first seat on the left in Darbar and holds a *jagir* of the estimated value of Rs. 2,000. Thakur Govind Singh

Sinodia.

* Thakurs of Naraina, Pandarwara, Bhadun, and Kherian.

† Thakurs of Raghunathpura and Naln.

‡ Thakurs of Chosla, Gothiana, Narwar, and Mandawaria.

§ Thakur of Titari.

|| Thakur of Hingara.

¶ Thakurs of Kotri, Bhambolao, Khatoli, Patan, Jharol, Sapunda, Hingonia, and Nalu.

** Thakurs of Sinodia, Kathoda and Bohard.

was adopted by his cousin, the late Thakur, in 1885, and was born in 1870. He has two sons, Ganga Singh and Sobhag Singh, born in 1895 and 1898 respectively.

(8) Thakur Bairi Sal of Chosla is a descendant of the Parbatsur family in Marwar, and holds a *jagir* of the value of Rs. 2,000. The Thakur, who was born in 1851, succeeded his father Thakur Chosla. Padam Singh in 1869. He has only one son born in 1898. His only brother, Sheodan Singh, has been adopted into the family of the *Jagirdar* of Bhogadit.

(9) Thakur Raghunath Singh of Kotri, a Karamsot descendant of Rao Jodha of Marwar, holds a *jagir* of the value of Rs. 4,000. He was born in 1836. His sister is the mother of the present Chief of Shahpura. He is a Rahtor Rajput and one of the nine nobles. He had two sons, Bhawani Singh born in 1871 and Kalyan Singh born in 1876, of whom the elder Bhawani Singh died last year, leaving an infant son born in 1895.

(10) Thakur Ram Singh of Pandarwara, a descendant of Bhupat Singh, brother to Maharaja Kishan Singh, holds a *jagir* of the estimated value of Rs. 1,700. He was born in 1871, and succeeded his father Thakur Madho Singh on the death of the latter about 19 years ago. This family, which was the most influential in the State, held Dhasuk in *jagir* till about eighty years ago, when the estate was confiscated owing to their refractory conduct. Eventually Pandarwara was given instead of Dhasuk. The Thakur has a son, Raghunath Singh, born in 1893.

(11) Thakur Sheonath Singh of Khatauli, a Karamsot descendant of Rao Jodha, holds a *jagir* of the value of Rs. 1,500. The Thakur, who was born in 1851, succeeded by adoption to his brother Thakur Kesri Singh. He has two sons, Sardar Singh and Ugam Singh, born in 1867 and 1879, respectively, two uncles, Bhim Singh and Dunga Singh, and four first consins, Devi Singh, Sawai Singh, Gulab Singh, and Sultan Singh.

(12) Thakur Bharat Singh of Raghunathpura, a descendant of Maharaja Kishan Singh's brother Sakat Singh, holds a *jagir* of the value of Rs. 4,000. Thakur Bharat Singh, who is a Member of the Council, was born in 1847. He succeeded his father, Thakur Gopal Singh, in 1869. Thakur Gopal Singh, who was originally a petty *jagirdar* and attendant on the late Maharaja Prithwi Singh, rendered useful service to the State during that Chief's minority, and by the construction of embankments and irrigation works did much to increase the revenue of the State. He became a Member of the Council, and was invested with the *jagir* of Raghunathpura. His son Bharat Singh, the present Thakur, succeeded him on the Council in 1869, and was subsequently raised to the rank of the first eight nobles, he himself becoming the ninth among them. He adopted his brother and only near relative, Jewahir Singh, who died two years ago leaving three sons, of whom the eldest died soon after his father's death, of the two surviving sons, Ranjit Singh born in 1886 and Ramanath Singh born in 1888, the former being now the heir to the estate.

(13) Thakur Govind Singh of Gothiana, a Jaganathot descendant of the Parbatsar family, holds a *jagir* with an income of Rs. 3,000. He was born in 1842, and succeeded his father Thakur Kishan Singh in 1853. He has one son, Zorawar Singh, born in 1866, one grandson, Bhanwar Lal Singh, born in 1886, one brother, Nouad Singh, and two nephews. After these, his nearest relatives are first cousins once removed.

(14) Lala Anand Singh, a natural son of His late Highness, by whom he was raised to the rank of the first nine nobles and invested with a *jagir* of the value of Rs. 3,000. He was born in 1874. He has a son named Jubileelal in consequence of his birth in 1897, the year of the Diamond Jubilee of Her late Majesty the Queen-Empress. Anand Singhji has received a fair education in the vernacular.

The above Thakurs are all entitled to the honour of the *tazim* and belong to the *nau* class.

The more important of the new or non-hereditary officials are—

(1) Babu Syam Sundar Lal, B.A., Mahesri, a native of Etawa, who was educated at the Agra College. He was teacher of Mathematics at the Ajmer Government College till 1883, when he became Private Secretary to His Highness the Maharaj Rana of Jhalawar. In 1886 he was transferred as a Member of Council to Kishangarh. He was born in 1855. The title of Rao Bahadur was conferred on him by the British Government in May 1893, and he has been appointed Dewan in place of Mehta Sobhag Singh. He has also received a Kaisar-i-Hind medal.

(2) Pandit Govardhan, a Parikh Brahman, has been a member of the Council since 1884. He is a native of Palri, and received a good English education at the Ajmer College. In 1869 he became Private Secretary to His Highness the late Maharaja. Subsequently he was tutor to the present Chief, and for several years was Judge of the Appellate Court. The late Maharaja conferred on him the title of Ji in 1894 and that of Paudit Raj on the commemoration of the 60th year of Her late Majesty's reign.

Sakal Mahanta Saromani Swamiji Moharaj Sri Ghanshyam Saran Devaji Sriji, Maharaj of Salimabad, the High Priest (Acharyya) of the Nimbarak division of the Vaishnav sect. Maharaj Ghanshyam, who lives at Salimabad, is the highest ecclesiastical authority of his sect and is held in very great respect by the ruling Chiefs and Nobles of Rajputana and other parts of India. He has an estate of the estimated value of about Rs. 15,000 a year, consisting of revenue-free grants in Kishangarh, Marwar, Bundi, and other States. In Marwar he receives a cess of a rupee a village. He is the disciple and successor of the late Sriji Maharaj Sri Gopeswar Sarandeva, who had once great influence in Jaipur, where he held large endowments which he relinquished owing to religious differences with the late Maharaja Ram Singh. The Sriji Maharaj was born in 1858 and is a fair Sanskrit scholar. He is also noted for his piety. He succeeded the late Sriji Maharaj in 1871, the latter having selected him and obtained approval of his choice from the Darbar. The Sriji Maharaj, who comes from the Gaur Brahman family, has chosen as his successor a disciple, Balkrishna Das, from the same family.

CHAPTER III. SESODIA STATES.

[Udaipur—Dungarpur—Banswara—Partabgarh.]

The Sesodia clan of Rajputs claims to be descended from Rama, the legendary king of Oudh, whose son Lob is said to have emigrated in A.D. 145 from the Punjab to Gujarat, where

Notice of the clan.

his descendants reigned till their capital Balahhi, near the present city of Bhaunagar, was destroyed by an invasion of foreigners in A.D. 524. In the course of the flight of the family a prince was born near Mount Abu, who afterwards reigned at Idar, which was held by his descendants for eight generations, when the Bhils rose and killed their ruler. His son Bapa was preserved and removed to Nagindra, ten miles to the north of the modern Udaipur. Eventually he sought refuge with the Mori Chief of Chitor, then the ruling lord of Malwa. Later on, he led the Chitor forces against the Muhammadans from Sind, defeated them, and ultimately he made himself master of Chitor and founded the kingdom of Mewar.

For the next four centuries little is known, till in 1193 Lomarsi, the Chief, was killed near the banks of the Ghagar when fighting in defence of his brother-in-law Prithwi Raj, the last Chauhan king of Delhi, against Shahabu-d-din. Lomarsi's grandson Mahap was driven from Chitor by his brother-in-law, the Chief of Jhalor, and rather than fight to regain his inheritance, he retired to the hills and founded the State of Dungarpur. He retained the sept name of Abarya, which the family had substituted for the original term Gehlot on their migration to Nagindra. In 1201 Mahap's uncle Bharat recovered Chitor and placed his son Rahap on the throne. Rahap changed the title of the sept from Abarya to Sesodia and his own style from Rawal to Rana. In 1290 Chitor was sacked by Alau-d-din Khilji, when the *johur*, or sacrifice of the women, was for the first time performed preparatory to the last sortie of the besieged host. Lakhansi, the Chief, was killed and his son became a fugitive. The latter, on his death in 1301, nominated Hamir, his nephew, as his successor. Hamir retook Chitor, which was held by his father-in-law Maldeo, Chief of Jhalor, for the Muhammadans. Hamir was regarded as the leading prince of Central India until his death. In the reign of Lakha, who succeeded to the *gadi* in 1373, the Chieftainship passed from the elder to the younger branch of the family, the Rana having taken to wife a princess of Marwar with the promise that any son born of the marriage should succeed to Mewar, to the exclusion of the elder son, Chanda. A child, Mokul, being born, Chanda resigned his rights in his favour, reserving to himself the first place in the Council of the State and stipulating that his symbol, the lance, should be superadded to that of the prince in all grants. Chanda became the ancestor of the Raos of Salumbar and the other Chandawat families. Mokul's grandson, Udai, succeeded to the *gadi* after assassinating his father, and brought dishonour on the State in various ways—by the cession of Ajmer and Sambhar to Jodhpur, by making the Deora prince dependent on Abu, and by offering his daughter in marriage to the Emperor of Delhi. This marriage did not take place. He left three sons, of whom Raimal succeeded him in 1474, after a conflict, in which one of his brothers was killed and the other was forced to retire to Deolia, where he founded the State of Partabgarh. Under Raimal's son and successor, Sanga, Mewar reached its highest prosperity. The following reigns of Ratna, Bikramjit, and Ude Singh were marked by severe struggles with Bahadur Shah, king of Gujarat, and subsequently with the Emperor Akhar, in both of which the *johur* sacrifice was performed. On the last occasion Chitor was captured after terrible slaughter and demolished. Ude Singh subsequently founded Udaipur, which has since been the capital of Mewar. Ude Singh's successor, Partap, was a gallant warrior who, after severe struggles with the Muhammadans, in the course of which his life was on one occasion only saved by the Chieftain of Sadri raising the royal insignia over his own head and sacrificing himself for his sovereign,* succeeded in recovering Chitor and the whole of Mewar. Ultimately when Jahangir took the field in person, Umra, son of Partap, yielded and soon afterwards abdicated in favour of his son Knrzas. Rana Umra, who succeeded to the *gadi* in 1700, made a tripartite

* In memory of this event, the descendants of the Sadri house are privileged to use the royal insignia to this day.

alliance for mutual defence with Jaipur and Jodhpur, stipulating as a condition on which the latter houses should again be admitted to the honour of marriage with Mewar, a privilege which they had lost by giving their daughters in marriage to the Mughal Emperors, that sons of princesses of the Udaipur house should in all cases succeed to the throne in preference to the elder sons by other mothers. This stipulation led to constant quarrels and eventually to the disastrous result of Mahrattas being called in as arbiters in the affairs of Rajputana. For nearly a century Mewar was harried by Sindia and Holkar and afterwards by Amir Khan, the Pindari, till in 1817 Maharana Bhim Singh made a treaty with the British Government, by which the latter agreed to protect the territory of Udaipur, and to use its best exertions for the restoration of the territories it had lost, when this could be done with propriety. This Chief died in 1828, and was succeeded by his son, Jawan Singh, who reigned till his death in 1838. In default of male issue, the succession went by adoption to Sardar Singh, the Chief of Bagor. Maharana Sardar Singh died in 1842, and was succeeded by his younger brother and adopted son, Maharana Sarup Singh, who distinguished himself by his loyal service during the Mutiny. Maharana Sarup Singh died in 1861, and was succeeded by Maharana Shambu Singh, who was, on his death in 1874, succeeded by Maharana Sajan Singh. That Chief having died without issue in 1884, the unanimous choice of the family and nobles fell on the present Chief, Maharana Fateh Singh.

UDAIPUR.

His Highness Maharana Dhiraj Fateh Singh Bahadur, G.C.S.I., was born on 16th

The present Chief.

December 1849. His Highness is the third son of the late *jagirdar* of Seorati, Maharaj Dal Singh, and had been adopted by his brother Maharaj Gaj Singh. On the death, however, of Maharana Sajan Singh in December 1884 without natural or adopted heirs, the unanimous choice of the family and leading men of the State fell on Fateh Singh, whose succession as Maharana was approved by the Government of India. The

Marriages.

Maharana has married (1) in 1867 the daughter of the late Thakur of Khod in Marwar, who died in 1877, and (2) in 1878 the daughter of Chanda Kol Singh of Barsoda (Warsora) in Mahi Kantha, Gujarat. The only surviving son is Kunwar Bhupal Singh, who was born on the 22nd February 1884. The Maharana's nearest relative is his predecessor's uncle, Maharaj Sohan Singh. He has also two brothers of his own (Seorati) family, Maharaj Gaj Singh and Maharaj Surat Singh. The latter of these has four sons. His Highness had also four daughters, of whom the eldest and youngest are dead and two are surviving, who have respectively been betrothed to Their Highnesses the Maharajas of Bikaner and Jodhpur. The ruling families closely connected with Mewar are Dungarpur and Partabgarh, which are offshoots of the Sesodia clan, and Kishangarh, Idar, and Rewa, with which marriages have taken place.

The nobles of Mewar are a numerous and powerful body, whose estates comprise about

Leading men.

one-third of the territory of the State. In the Gazetteer of Mewar, Colonel Walter wrote regarding them: "The Chiefs of Mewar enjoy rights and privileges which do not obtain in any other part of Rajputana. The Court maintained at their own estates is almost an exact counterpart of that of their prince, and they exhibit few of the marks of vassalage observable at other Courts; and only on particular festivals and solemnities do they join the prince's cavalcade. In Darbar they take rank above the heir-apparent—a custom unprecedented in India, and granted in consequence of the heir-apparent having attended the Emperor's court. When a Chief enters the presence, the entire court rises and the ceremonial is most intricate."

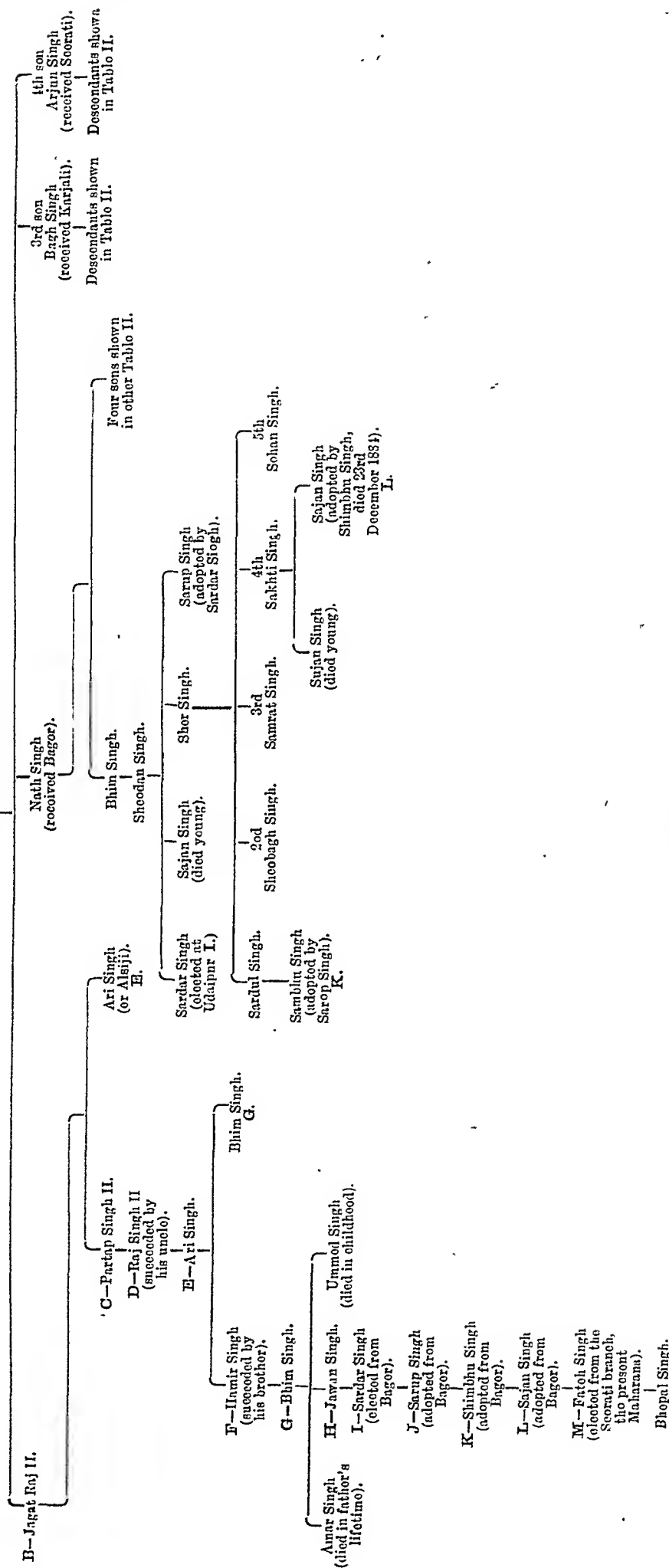
In the reign of Maharana Umra Singh II (1700-16), the nobles were arranged into (1) sixteen of the first rank, known as the *Solah*, besides the heir-apparent and the Maharana's nearest relatives, who sit below the sixteen; (2) thirty-two of the second rank, known as the *Battis*; and (3) the mass or *Gol* consisting of the rest, to whom no special precedence is assigned. The first class, though still termed the sixteen, consists now of twenty nobles, besides the near relatives of the Chiefs who are seven in number. Of the whole twenty-seven, eighteen are Sesodias, and nine belong to other clans. The families of the Sesodia clan are divided into five classes. To the first of these belong eight—Salumlar, Deogarh, Begun, Amet, Mehja, Bhainsrorgarh, Kotabar, and Asin, descendants of Chanda, who in 1398 resigned his right to the Chiefship to his younger brother Mokul. In the second class there is one family, that of Kanor, descended from Sarangdeo, a son of Aja and grandson of Lakha, the father of Chanda and Mokul. The third class comprises the families of Bhindar and Bansi, descended from Sakat Singh, a son of Maharana Ude Singh (1541-72). Two of the nobles hold the independent title of Raja—the Rajas of Shahpura and Banera. Of these, the former is descended from Maharana Amar Singh, and the latter from Maharana Raj Singh. The descendants of Maharana Sangram Singh II (1716-34) constitute the five *hawelis* or houses of Karoi, Banlas, Bagor, Karjali, and Seorati.

The following pedigrees, compiled by Colonel Walter, show the descent of the Chief and the principal Sesodia families of Mewar:—

GENEALOGICAL TABLE No. I.

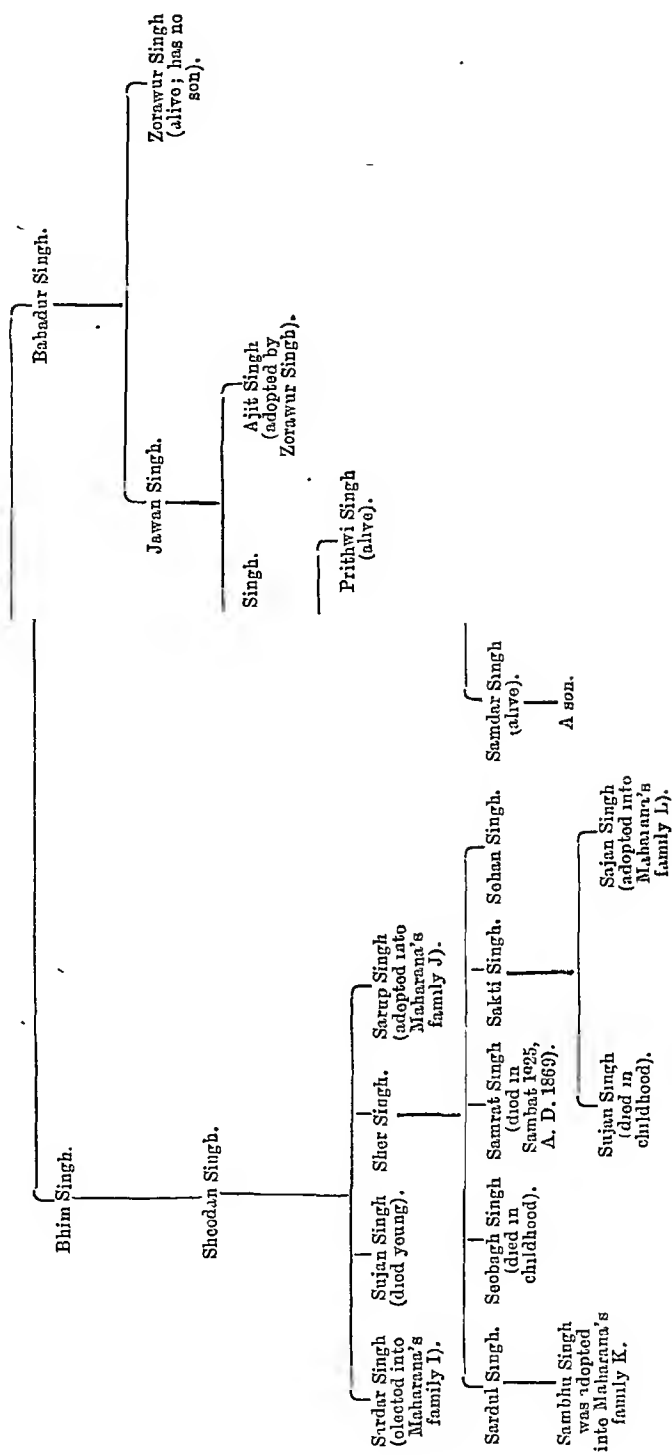
Showing the main line of the Udaipur family from Sengram Singh II downwards and adoption from Bagor Branch.

A—MAHARANA SANGRAM SINGH II.



NOTE.—The capital letters indicate the sequence of the Maharana.

Jagat Raj II
(succeeded his father
at Udaipur and continued
the main line of the
Maharajas as shown in
Table No. I).



Of the nine nobles not belonging to the Sesodia clan, three—Sadri, Dilwara, and Goguuda—are Jhalas, and three—Bedla, Kotaria, and Parsoli—are Chauhans. The remainder—Bejoli, Bednor, and Sardargarh—are Paur (Pramar), Rahtor, and Dudhiya respectively. The precedence of the Solah among themselves is as liberal as the composition of the group. The first place is held by a Jhala; Chauhans occupy the second and third places. The fourth place belongs to a Sesodia noble, Rawat of Salumhar, who, as the head of the senior and most numerous branch of the family, the Chandawats, is the most prominent Chief of Mewar. The same liberality is observable in the composition of the Mahand Raj Sabha, which is the highest tribunal in the State, and is a Council of reference and revision. The Maharana sits as president of the body, in which are associated with him eleven nobles and eight officials. Of the nobles five only are Sesodias. Of the officials three belong to Mewar, and the rest are outsiders.

(1) Maharaj Surat Singh, the elder brother of the Maharana, holds the estate of Karjali, situated 55 miles to the east of Udaipur, and consisting of twenty-two villages of the annual value of Rs. 22,000.* The Maharaj succeeded to the estate by adoption in 1857. He was born on 15th May 1845, and is married to daughters of the Thakurs of Raipur and Khad in Marwar, by whom he has four sons, Himmat Singh, Luchman Singh, Tej Singh, and Khuman Singh.

(2) Maharaj Gaj Singh, the adoptive father of His Highness the Maharana, holds the estate of Seorati, 60 miles to the north-east of Udaipur, comprising eighteen villages of the annual value of Rs. 45,000. The Maharaj was born on the 7th December 1831; he is a member of the Mahand Raj Sabha. He succeeded his father Dal Singh in 1867, and has no issue. He married the daughter of the Thakur of Baroda in Gujarat. Both the estates of Karjali and Seorati, which are held revenue-free from the Darbar, were conferred upon the founders of the present families by Maharana Sangram Singh II (1716-34).

(3) Raja Dhiraj Nahar Singh of Shahpura, who is a descendant of Suraj Mal, younger son of Maharana Amar Singh I (1597-1621), holds the estate of Shahpura comprising eighty-nine villages of the annual value of Rs. 75,000 and paying a tribute of Rs. 2,002 to the Mewar Darbar. The Raja Dhiraj succeeded to his Chiefship in 1869 in accordance with the wishes of the Thakurs of the State on the death of Raja Lashman Singh. The succession was unsuccessfully disputed by Thakur Ram Singh of Beshnia. The Raja Dhiraj, who was born in 1865, is married to a daughter of the Thakur of Baghera in Jaipur, and has two sons, Ummed Singh and Sardar Singh, who have been educated at the Mayo College. He is a member of the Mahand Raj Sabha. The eldest son Umed Singh is married to the daughter of the Raja of Khetri in Jaipur. The Chief of Shahpura, besides his estates in Udaipur, holds the *patta* of Phulia from the British Government. This estate was granted to the son of Suraj Mal, the founder of the house, by the Emperor Shah Jahan. In respect of Shahpura, the Raja Dhiraj is not subject to any British Court, but he was required by the terms of his *sanad* to report all heinous crimes involving the punishment of death or imprisonment for life to a British Officer—formerly the Commissioner of Ajmer and now the Political Agent in Haraoti and Tonk to whom the political control of Shahpura has been transferred.

(4) Raja Govind Singh of Banera is descended from the brother of Rana Jay Singh of Mewar. He holds an estate consisting of one hundred and fourteen villages situated about 90 miles east of Udaipur. The estimated income of the estate is Rs. 1,10,000. A tribute of Rs. 6,124 is paid to the Darbar. Raja Govind Singh, who was born on the 18th February 1834, has two sons, Akhay Singh and Ram Singh, born in 1868 and 1871, respectively. The Raja of Banera enjoys certain privileges not possessed by the other nobles of Mewar. Of these, the chief is the right on succession to the *gadi* to have a sword sent to him with all honour to Banera, instead of having to attend at Udaipur for investiture. On receipt of the sword, he proceeds to Udaipur for installation. On the death of the Raja, Sangram Singh, the present Chief, was placed in possession of his estates by the inhabitants of Banera without the consent of the Darbar. In 1855 the British Government interposed to support the authority of the Maharana, but the submission of the people obviated the necessity for sending a force to Banera. As a penalty for his contumacy Raja Govind Singh was compelled to proceed to Udaipur without receiving the sword of honour and to ask pardon, which was granted on payment of a fine and on execution of a written promise that no succession to Banera should be considered valid without the previous consent of the Darbar.

(5) Raj Rana Dooleh Singh of Bari Sadri, a Jhala Rajput, holds the first place among the Solah nobles. His estate, which is valued at Rs. 60,000 a year, consists of eighty-nine villages, and pays a tribute of Rs. 1,024 to the Darbar. The Raj of Sadri, who was born on 26th June 1881, succeeded to the estate by adoption in June 1897. His nearest relatives belong to the family of Dilwara. Marriages have taken place between the house of Sadri and princesses of the ruling family of Mewar. As already noticed (page 20), the Chiefs of Sadri hold their

* The value of all estates in Mewar is given in Udaipur rupees, which are worth about 12 annas 6 pies in British currency.

† See also page 40.

present rank in Darhar in recognition of the gallantry displayed by their ancestor Mana, who at the battle of Haldighat in 1576 saved the life of Rana Partap by assuming the insignia of royalty and drawing the brunt of the battle on himself. The fief of Sadri was conferred at the same time with the title of Raj, and the Chief was allowed the privilege of bearing the royal insignia of Mewar and of beating his kettle-drums up to the gate of the palace. These honours are still enjoyed by his successors.

- (6) Rao Nahar Singh of Bedla, a Chohan Rajput, holds an estate of one hundred and fifteen villages of the annual income of Rs. 80,000, situated partly near the capital and partly in the

Bedla.

neighbourhood of Chitor. The Rao was born on 27th August 1895. He succeeded his father Rao Bahadur Karan Singh in August 1900. Rao Karan Singh, who was a member of the Mahand Raj Sabha, received the title of Rao Bahadur from the British Government in 1896. Rao Bakht Singh, C.I.E., the great-grandfather of Rao Nahar Singh, was noted for his ability and honesty and for his loyalty alike to his own Chief and to the Supreme Government. He received a sword of honour after the Mutiny in recognition of the services rendered by him by order of Maharana Sarup Singh in bringing from Dungla to Udaipur the European families from Nimach. At the Imperial Assemblage of 1877 the title of Rao Bahadur was conferred on Thakur Bakht Singh, and in the following year he was appointed a Companion of the Indian Empire. The Bedla family, like that of Kotharia, claims descent from Prithwi Raj, the last Hindu King of Delhi, their ancestors having taken refuge at Chitor after the conquest of Delhi by Shahab-ud-din in 1193.

- (7) Rawat Jawan Singh of Kotharia, also a Chauhan descendant of Raja Prithwi Raj of Delhi, holds an estate of seventy villages, of the estimated value of Rs. 40,000, on the banks of

Kotharia.

the Banas, about 30 miles north-west of Udaipur. It pays a tribute of Rs. 1,502 to the Darbar. The present Rawat, who was born on 3rd May 1886, succeeded Rawat Kesri Singh in 1888 by adoption. The estate is at present under the management of the Darhar.

- (8) Rawat Unar Singh of Salumbar, who holds the fourth place in Darbar, is a Sesodia Rajput and is perhaps the most important of the Mewar nobles. His estate consists of one

Salumbar.

hundred and seventy-five villages of the annual value of one lakh of rupees. It pays no revenue to the Darbar. The Rawat was born in October 1864, and succeeded to the estate by adoption on the demise of the late Rawat Jodh Singh in 1901. As noticed above (page 20), the family of Salumbar is descended from Rawat Chanda, who yielded his right to the Mewar succession in favour of his young brother Mokul, the offspring of a Marwar princess. Chanda retained for himself and his descendants the right to advise in all important matters of State, and to the first place in the State Councils. The Rawat claims the office of chief hereditary councillor, and an unsuccessful attempt was made to have this claim recognized in the treaty of 1818.

The fifth place in Darbar is kept vacant, having formerly belonged to the Rahtor Thakur of Ganerau who has been transferred to Marwar.

- (9) Rao Sawai Kishen Singh of Bijolia, a Puar (Pramar) Rajput, holds an estate of ninety villages, with an income of Rs. 72,000, on the eastern frontier of Udaipur, about 100 miles

Bijolia.

from the capital. The Rao, who was born on the 18th December 1869, succeeded his father Rao Govind Singh in 1895. The Rao is married to the sister of the late Rao of Korabar. The family of Bijolia is related to that of Dhar. It came into Mewar in the time of Umra Singh early in the seventeenth century, the Rana having married a daughter of Rao Asoka of Jagnair near Biana, to whom he assigned an estate valued at five lakhs of rupees.

- (10) Rawat Bijey Singh of Deogarh, a Sesodia Rajput, descended from Chandaji, holds an estate of two hundred and sixteen villages

Deogarh.

near the borders of the Merwara district, with a revenue of one and half lakhs of rupees. An annual tribute of Rs. 7,142 is paid to the Darbar. The Rawat was born in 1891, and succeeded Rawat Kishen Singh by adoption in December 1900. The family of Deogarh is descended from Sanga or Sangram Singh, a younger son of Singhji, the founder of the Amet family, who was the grandson of Chanda through his younger son Kandhal.

- (11) Rawat Sawai Megh Singh Begun, a Chandawat Sesodia Rajput, holds an estate of one hundred and sixty-five villages, about

Begun.

70 miles east of Udaipur. The estate, which yields an income of Rs. 60,000, pays Rs. 6,532 as tribute to the Darbar. The Rawat, who was born on the 31st August 1855, and succeeded his uncle Maha Singh in 1861, has one son, Anup Singh. Rawat Maha Singh in 1824 gave up his estate to his son Kishor Singh and became a religious mendicant at the shrines of Nath Dwara and Kankroli. Fifteen years later Kishor Singh was for some unknown reason murdered in cold blood by a Brahman, and Maha Singh resumed the management of his estate. He nominated as his successor his younger brother, Madho Singh, who, however, predeceased him, and on his death Megh Singh, Madho Singh's brother, succeeded to the estate.

- (12) Raj Rana Man Singh of Dilwara is a Jhala Rajput. The estate consists of eighty-one villages with an income of Rs. 90,000, and pays a tribute of Rs. 6,124 to the Darbar.

Dilwara.

The Raj was born on 23rd August 1892, and succeeded his father Raj Rana Zalim Singh in July 1900.

(13) Rawat Sheonath Singh of Amet is another descendant of the Chandawat family of the Sesodia clan. Amet, which lies about 50 miles to the north of Udaipur, consists of forty-six villages, with an income of Rs. 35,000, paying a tribute of Rs. 3,415 to the Darbar. Rawat Sheonath Singh, who was educated at the Mayo College, was born on the 11th December 1869. He succeeded his father Rawat Chatar Singh in 1874. He has one son.

The Amet family is the elder branch of the descendants of Singbji, of which the younger branch is represented by the family of Deogarh.

(14) Rawat Raj Singh of Meja is also a Chandawat Sesodia. He holds an estate of fifteen villages in the centre of Mewar. The annual income is Rs. 32,000, and the tribute payable to the Darbar is Rs. 3,121. Rawat Raj Singh, who was born on the 5th September 1875, succeeded his father Amar Singh in 1896. The estate is of recent creation. On the death without issue of Rawat Prithwi Singh, Zalim Singh of Bemali, the father of Rawat Amar Singh, claimed Amet for his son. This Maharana Sarup Singh refused to grant, but on the Maharana's death his successor, Maharana Shimbhu Singh, permitted Amar Singh to occupy the Rawat of Amet's seat in Darbar and conferred upon him the title of Rawat. In the next year he gave him the Meja estate. The Jiloli and Bemali families are closely connected with Amet and Meja.

(15) Raj Pirthi Singh of Gogunda, a Jhala Rajput, holds an estate of eighteen villages, with an annual income of Rs. 30,000, situated at a distance of about 20 miles from Udaipur. The Raj was born on the 18th July 1858 and succeeded to the estate on the death of his brother Ajay Singh without issue in February 1901. This family is connected with those of Bari Sadri and Dilwara, being descended from the ninth Raj of Bari Sadri.

(16) Rawat Nahar Singh of Kanor, a Sesodia Rajput of the Sarangdevot sub-clan, owns an estate of seventy-eight villages yielding an annual income of Rs. 40,000 and paying Rs. 3,166 as tribute to the Darbar. The Rawat, who succeeded his father Ummed Singh in 1884, was born on the 25th November 1869 and has no male issue. The family is descended from Maharana Lakhaji of Mewar.

(17) Maharaj Madho Singh of Bhindar is a Sesodia Rajput of the Bhanawat division of the Sakhtawat clan. The estate, which is situated 30 miles to the south-east of Udaipur, consists of a hundred villages, with an income of Rs. 60,000 and pays a tribute of Rs. 4,002 to the Darbar. The present Maharaj succeeded his father Maharaj Kesri Singh in October 1900. He was born on the 14th August 1893. The family is descended from Maharaj Sakht Singh, son of Maharana Udai Singh.

(18) Thakur Govind Singh of Bednor, a Rahtor Rajput of the Mertia branch, holds an estate of one hundred and fifty-eight villages of the annual value of Rs. 90,000 on the Merwara border. The tribute payable to the Darbar is Rs. 4,084. Thakur Govind Singh, who was born on the 4th September 1871, succeeded his grandfather Thakur Kesri Singh in 1889. His younger brother has been adopted into the family of Rampur. The Thakurs of Bednor are descended from Rao Duda, a younger son of Rao Jodha of Jodhpur, who was the founder of Mertia and the Mertia family. The Mewar branch of the family emigrated to Mewar in the time of Thakur Jaymal, who fought on the side of Mewar against the Delhi troops under Ranbe Khan. A *talwar* belonging to the Imperial General, a shield of elephant hide and a kettle-drum which were captured on this occasion are kept as heirlooms in the family.

(19) Rawat Sakht Singh of Bansi, a Sesodia of the Sakhtawat sub-clan, holds an estate 18 miles to the south of Udaipur, comprising forty-one villages of the annual value of Rs. 30,000. The tribute payable to the Darbar is Rs. 202. The Rawat, who succeeded his father Thakur Man Singh in 1887, was born on the 2nd June 1879. He is betrothed to the daughter of the Thakur of Chandawal in Marwar. The family is descended from Achal Das, the younger son of Maharaj Sakat Singh, the founder of the Bhindar estate.

(20) Rawat Inder Singh of Bhainsrorgarh, a Sesodia of the Chandawat clan, holds an estate of one hundred and nineteen villages of the annual value of a lakh of rupees. The estate, which pays a tribute of Rs. 7,502, is situated at the confluence of the rivers Bamni and Chambal. The place is said by Colonel Tod to take its name from a merchant named Bhainsa, and Rora, a Banjara or carrier, and to have been built to protect caravans. It commands the trade route from Mewar into Haraoti. The present Rawat, who was born on the 24th August 1875, succeeded Partabsing in February 1897. He has no male issue. The Bhainsrorgarh family is descended from Lal Singh, the younger son of Rawat Kesri Singh of Salunbar, on whom the separate estate and title were conferred by Maharana Jagat Singh II in 1741.

(21) Rao Ratan Singh of Parsoli is a Chauhan Rajput. His estate is situated 28 miles to the north-east of Chitor, and comprises forty-six villages yielding an annual income of Rs. 25,000, and paying Rs. 926 as tribute to the Darbar. The present Rao succeeded his father Rao

Lakshman Singh in 1880. He was born on the 28th November 1842 and has three sons, Devi Singh, Madho Singh, and Abbay Singh. He is a member of the Mahand Raj Sabha. The founder of the family of Parsoli was Kesri Singh, the younger son of Rao Ram Chandra, of Bedla, on whom the estate was bestowed by Maharana Raj Singh.

- (22) **Rawat Kishore Singh of Korabar**, a Sesodia Rajput of the Chandawat sub-clan, holds an estate of sixty-five villages, situated 30 miles to the south-east of Udaipur. The estate, Korabar.

which yields an annual income of Rs. 50,000, pays no tribute to the Darbar. Rawat Kishore Singh was born in 1879, and succeeded his father Jait Singh in 1895. Korabar was bestowed as an independent estate by Maharana Jagat Singh II in 1747 on Arjun Singh, the younger son of Rawat Kesri Singh of Salumbar.

- (23) **Rawat Ranjit Singh of Asin** holds a large estate of seventy-five villages of the annual value of a lakh of rupees, situated about 80 miles to the north-east of Udaipur near the Asin.

Merwara border. Rupees 1,300 are paid as tribute to the Darbar. Rawat Ranjit Singh is a son of the late Rawat Jait Singh of Korabar, and was adopted by Rawat Arjun Singh, whom he succeeded in 1896. He was born on the 15th September 1884. The founder of the family was Ajit Singh, the fourth son of Arjun Singh, the founder of the Korabar family. He received a grant of the Gorkhya estate of fourteen villages from Maharana Bhim Singh, on whose behalf he signed the treaty of 1818 with the British Government. He was succeeded by his adopted son Dule Singh of Satola, who previous to his adoption had received the title of Rawat and several villages, including Asin, from Amar Singh, son of Maharana Bhim Singh. Dule Singh was then raised to the position of a first class Sardar with the twentieth place among the Solah.

- (24) **Thakur Manohar Singh of Sardargarh** is a Rajput of the Indrabhanot division of the Dndhiya clan. His estate, which is situated Sardargarh. 56 miles to the north-east of Udaipur on the right

bank of the Chandra-Bhaga river, consists of twenty-two villages, which yield an income of Rs. 33,000 and pay a tribute of Rs. 1,740 to the Darbar. Thakur Manohar Singh, who succeeded his father Thakur Zorawar Singh in 1859, was born on the 30th January 1830. He had two sons, both of whom are dead. He is a member of the Mahand Raj Sabha and resides at the capital. The Thakur has the hereditary privilege of guarding the Maharana's person in time of war. The Sardargarh family is among the oldest of the Raj servants of Mewar, and received from Maharana Sajan Singh a place among the nobles of the first class.

- One of the most important personages in Mewar is the guardian of the Nathdwara temple. Sriman Tikait Goswami Maharaj Other influential personages. Sri Govardhan Lalji is the head of the

Vallabhacharyya sect of Brahmans. He succeeded his father Maharaj Girdharji in 1876, on the deposition of the latter for contumacious conduct. He was born in 1862, and is a well-educated gentleman, who has done much to promote the welfare of his people. The Maharaj, besides his estates in Mewar, holds *jagirs* in Kota, Jhalawar, Bikaner, Bhanatpur, Katauli, Gwalior, Indore, Partabgarh, Baroda and elsewhere, of the annual value of about two and a quarter lakhs of rupees. The offerings received by him yearly are estimated at between four and five lakhs. One village, Bhawanikhera, of the value of Rs. 1,500, is held by the temple in the Ajmer District. The grant was originally made by Maharaja Daulat Rao Sindia. The origin of Nathdwara is thus described in the Gazetteer of Mewar:—"The shrine owes its celebrity to the image of Krishna, said to be the same that was worshipped at Mathura ever since his deification between eleven and twelve centuries before Christ, and it is consequently one of the most frequented places of pilgrimage. Krishna was proscribed by the Emperor Aurangzeb, and the God was subsequently conducted by Rana Raj Singh of Mewar, about 1671, from Mathura to Mewar. An omen decided the spot of his future residence: as he journeyed towards the capital the chariot-wheel sank deep into the earth and defied extraction, upon which the augur interpreted it as the desire of the God to dwell there. This incident occurred at an inconsiderable village called Siarh in the fief of Dilwara, one of the sixteen nobles of Mewar. The Chief hastened to make a perpetual gift of the village and its lands, which was speedily confirmed by the patent of the Rana. Nathji was removed from his car and in the due time a temple was erected for his reception, when the hamlet of Siarh became the town of Nathdwara which now contains many thousand inhabitants. The territory contains abundant space for the town, the temple, and the establishments of the priests, as well as for the numerous resident worshippers, and the constant influx of votaries from distant regions. Within its bounds is the sanctuary of Kanya, where the criminal is free from pursuit and no blood can be spilt. The guardians of the shrine belong to the Vallabhacharyya sect, and the image is one of the seven famous images possessed by this division of the votaries of Krishna."

Officials.

Of the officials of the State one only calls for special notice—

(1) **Rai Mahta Panna Lal, C.I.E.**, an Oswal Mahajan by caste. The family is descended from Bar Singh Bachawat, one of the officials who accompanied Rao Bika from Jodhpur at the foundation of the Bikaner State. The family did good service till the time of Karm Chand, who was Dewan of Bikaner under Raja Rai Singh in the days of Akbar. Karm Chand conspired against his master and, the plot being discovered, fled to Delhi, where he

remained till the death of Rai Singh enjoying the favour of the Emperor.* Rai Singh before his death is said to have laid on his son Sur Singh the injunction to entice the Bachawats to Bikaner and destroy them. Sur Singh, on succeeding to the *gadi*, went to do homage at Delhi, visited Karim Chand's sons and, having guaranteed their safety, induced them to return to Bikaner. This they did and for a time were treated with distinction. At the end of two months, however, their house was surrounded by Raj troops, and after a hard fight the family was exterminated to a man, with the exception of one boy who was absent with his mother's family in Udaipur. From this boy Mahta Panna Lal is descended. The family has held many high positions in Mewar, no less than three members of the elder branch, Devi Chand, Sher Singh, and Gokul Chand, having held the office of *Phardhan* or Chief Minister. Rai Panna Lal, who is a member of the younger branch and who for many years exercised the chief ministerial authority in the State, though the title of *Pardhan* was never formally conferred on him, resigned his appointment of the chief ministerial officer of the Mewar State in August 1894. He was born in 1842, and has one son, Fateh Lal. The title of Rai was bestowed on Mahta Panna Lal at the Delhi Assemblage of 1877, and ten years later he was nominated a Companion of the Indian Empire. He possesses a *jagir* of six villages valued at Rs. 10,000 a year.

DUNGARPUR.

The founder of the Dungarpur house, as already mentioned (page 20), was Mahap, son of Karna and grandson of Rawal Lomarsi of Mewar, who was driven from Chitor, the then capital of Mewar, by his brother-in-law the Chief of Jhalor. The possessions of Dungarpur were divided early in the sixteenth century, one portion becoming the independent Raj of Banswara. Dungarpur, of which the early history calls for no special notice, entered into relations with the Mughals and, after the fall of the Empire, became tributary to the Mahrattas, the tribute being taken after some dispute with Sindia and Holkar by the State of Dhar. Dungarpur was subsequently harried by Pindari and other freebooters, till in 1818 an agreement was entered into with the British by which the tribute was assigned to them and the State was guaranteed against external aggression.

The present Chief, His Highness Maharawal Bijey Singh Bahadur, was born on the 17th July 1887 and is a Sesodia Rajput of the house of Mewar. He succeeded his grandfather

Present Chief.

Maharawal Udey Singh Bahadur, who died on the 13th February 1898. The late Chief Udey Singh was the son of Maharaj Jaswant Singh of Sabli, and succeeded Maharawal Jaswant Singh of Dungarpur in 1846. Maharawal Jaswant Singh had been deposed in 1825 for his incompetency, and his adopted son Dalpat Singh, son of the Partabgarh Chief, was made Regent. On Dalpat Singh's succession to Partabgarh in 1844 it was decided that he could not hold both States, and he was therefore permitted to adopt the late Chief. Maharawal Udey Singh married in 1855 the daughter of the Maharao of Sirohi, by whom he had a son, Khuman Singh, the father of the present Chief, and who died on the 3rd October 1893. The nearest relatives to the Chief are the *jagirdars* of Nandli, Sabli, and Oara. The Dungarpur family is related by blood to those of Udaipur, Banswara, and Partabgarh. Maharawal Bijey Singh is being educated at the Mayo College at Ajmer.

The leading men of Dungarpur are the nobles, including the Hawelis or relatives of the Maharawal, and hereditary office-bearers, the nobles being again subdivided on the same plan as those of Mewar into *solah* and *battis*, though neither number is strictly observed.

Leading personages.

Hawelis.

The Hawelis are the Thakurs of Nandli Sabli, and Oara. These are all Sesodia Rajputs.

- (1) Thakur Ummed Singh of Nandli is descended from Rawal Jaswant Singh through his grandson Bakht Singh and Prithwi Singh, the second son of the latter. The Thakur, who

Nandli.

was born on the 29th January 1851, succeeded to the estate on his father's death. He has four sons, Gopal Singh, Khuman Singh, Takht Singh, and Bhopal Singh; and two uncles. The estate consists of the whole or part of five villages with an income of Rs. 1,800.

- (2) Thakur Shimbhu Singh of Sabli is descended from Maharawal Girdhari of Dungarpur. The Thakur, who was born on the 21st November 1884, succeeded his nephew. His nearest relatives are his cousins Parbat Singh, Thakur of Oara, and Ummed Singh, Thakur of Mandwa. The present Maharawal is, as noticed above, by birth the grandson of a member of the Sabli family. The Sabli estate consists of five villages with an income of about Rs. 1,200.

Sabli.

- (3) Maharaj Parbat Singh, Thakur of Oara, is a descendant of Rawal Jaswant Singh. He was born on the 28th April 1880. He succeeded to the estate, which consists of three villages with an income of about Rs. 1,200, on the death of his uncle. His nearest relatives are the Thakurs of Sabli, Mandwa and Sesod, and His Highness the Maharawal.

Oara.

* Another version of this story is that Karim Chand, who was a good chess-player, attracted by his skill the notice of the Emperor, who would often cause him to sit down and play while his master and other Rajas stood by in humble attendance. This was naturally most galling to Rai Singh, who conceived a hatred towards his servant, who after his return home, sought to kill him—a fate which Karim Chand only escaped by flight to Delhi. (Powlett, *Gazetteer of Bikaner*, page 26.)

The *tazimi* nobles comprised in the *solah* are eleven in number, exclusive of the Havelis—the Thakurs of Bankora, Peit, Mandow, Thakurda, Chitri, Lodawal, Bamasa, Bichiwarra, Sulaj, Kua, and Ramgarh. Of these two are Chandawat Sesodias, one is a Rahtor, and the remaining eight are Chauhans.

(1) **Thakur Dalpat Singh of Bankora**, a descendant of the Chauhan Raja Prithwi Raj of Delhi, is the chief noble of Dungarpur. He holds an estate consisting of the whole or part of thirty-eight villages, which yields an income of Rs. 23,000 and pays a tribute of Rs. 3,602 to the Darbar. The Thakur, who was born on the 9th June 1862, succeeded his uncle Kesri Singh in 1885. He has no children, and his nearest relatives are his first cousins, Parbat Singh, Kisbau Singh, and Basant Singh.

(2) **Thakur Zorawar Singh of Peit** is also a Prithwi Rajot Chauhan. His estate, which yields an income of Rs. 5,600, and pays Rs. 1,547 as tribute to the Darbar, consists of fifty villages. The Thakur, who was born on the 16th May 1865, succeeded his father in 1885. He has one son, Sangram Singh, and no near relatives.

(3) **Thakur Dhirat Singh of Bichiwarra**, a Prithwi Rajot Chauhan, holds an estate of nine villages, which yields an income of Rs. 4,000 and pays Rs. 1,408 as tribute to the Raj. He was born on the 12th February 1865 and succeeded his uncle Bakht Singh. He has three sons, Indar Singh, Balwant Singh, and an infant not yet named. His nearest relative is the son of his uncle Kodarji.

(4) **Thakur Dalpat Singh of Mandow**, a Prithwi Rajot Chauhan, holds an estate consisting of the whole or part of seventeen villages. The annual income is Rs. 6,600, and the tribute payable to the Darbar is Rs. 1,275. He succeeded his granduncle and was born on the 26th September 1882. He has no sons. His nearest relative is his brother Parhat Singh.

(5) **Thakur Kesri Singh of Thakurda**, a Prithwi Rajot Chauhan, holds an estate of eleven villages yielding an income of Rs. 7,000 and paying Rs. 1,408 as tribute to the Darbar. The Thakur, who was born on the 30th March 1871, succeeded to the estate on the death of his father. He has two sons, Bijay Singh and Hamir Singh and two brothers, Sangram Singh and Madan Singh. Of these Sangram Singh has been adopted into the Garhi family of Banswara. Other near relatives are the Thakur's uncles Amir Singh, Dalpat Singh, and Chatar Singh.

(6) **Thakur Pahar Singh of Sulaj** is a Chandawat Sesodia of the family of the Thakur of Salumbar in Mewar (*q. v.*). His estate consists of eleven villages, with an income of Rs. 4,000, and pays a tribute of Rs. 296 to the Darbar. The Thakur was born on the 5th June 1865 and succeeded his father, Thakur Muhabhat Singh. He has two sons, the eldest of whom is named Fatteh Singh, and his nearest relative is his cousin Raj Singh of Pardla.

(7) **Thakur Ram Singh of Kua**, a Rahtor Rajput of the Mertia family, holds an estate of thirty-six villages with an income of Rs. 4,500. The tribute payable to the Darbar is Rs. 902. The Thakur, who was born on the 23rd May 1877, succeeded his cousin the late Thakur Fath Singh. He has no children, and his nearest relative is his cousin, Zorawar Singh.

(8) **Thakur Shiva Singh of Lodawal** is a Chauhan Rajput of the Prithwi Rajot clan. The estate of Lodawal consists of five villages yielding an income of Rs. 1,800 and paying a tribute to the Darbar. The Thakur succeeded on the death of his uncle. He was born on the 14th February 1883. His nearest relatives are his cousins Bbawani Singh and Sher Singh, and his uncle Anup Singh.

(9) **Thakur Lal Singh of Bamasa**, Prithwi Rajot Chauhan, holds an estate consisting of the whole or part of three villages with an income of Rs. 1,500, which pays a tribute of Rs. 252. The Thakur, who succeeded his uncle, was born on the 11th March 1867, and has no sons. His nearest relative is his cousin Sardar Singh.

BANSWARA.

The origin of the Banswara family, which is an offshoot from that of Dungarpur, is thus given in the Gazetteer, the author of which has taken his facts from a local chronicle:—"The Rawals of Banswara are a junior branch of that family of the Sesodia clan of Rajputs which is now ruling in Dungarpur, from which they separated about the year 1530. At that period, and for many years previously, the whole country, which now comprises the two States of Banswara and Dungarpur, was known as Bagar, and was under the dominion of the family of the Sesodias which still holds Dungarpur, though the Chief's control over the lawless Bhils inhabiting the wilder part of his territory was merely nominal. Udai Singh, who came to power in A.D. 1509, had two sons, the elder named Prithwi Kaj and the younger Jagmal.

He himself marched under his kinsman, Rana Sanga of Chitor, against the Emperor Babar, and was killed at the great battle of Kanwa in 1528. After his death his territory was divided between his two sons, and the descendants of the two families are the present Chiefs of Dungarpur and Banswara. Whether this division was made amicably or by force is not clear. There is a tradition that Ude Singh ordered it to be made before he died. There is another legend that Jagmal Singh, his son, was left for dead on the battle-field, but recovered, and on returning to his country was disowned as an impostor. Thereupon he took refuge in the hills to the north of the present site of Banswara, and having collected a body of followers began to make incursions into his father's territory. This asylum is still known as Jagmer. It is related that Jagmal's first acquisition of territory came about in this wise. In those days there resided to the east of the Mahi river a powerful nobleman, who hardly deigned to acknowledge the authority of the ruler of Dungarpur. His estate was known as that of Kuanya. With him Jagmal speedily came into collision and a protracted feud ensued. After harassing each other for a number of years, they at length became reconciled, and on the death of the old Thakur of Kuanya, Jagmal gained possession of his estate without opposition. Having thus obtained a firm foothold, he turned his arms against the Bhils, who held nearly the whole of the country now constituting Banswara. Where the town of Banswara now stands there was a large Bhil *pal* or colony under a powerful Chieftain named Wasna, and against him Jagmal directed his principal attack. Wasna was killed during the storming of his *pal*, his followers were routed, and his lands passed into the hands of his Rajput conquerors. The name Banswara is by tradition said to be a corruption of Wasuawara.

"Jagmal now transferred his residence to Banswara, whence he continued his forays against Dungarpur and the Bhils. In Dungarpur, Ude Singh had been succeeded by his elder son, Prithwi Raj, and the two brothers, finding their continual border war intolerable, agreed to abide by the arbitration of the Raja of Dhar as to the partition of their lands. Accordingly in 1529, the river Mahi was fixed as the boundary between the two States of Dungarpur and Banswara, which since that date have remained perfectly distinct and independent of one another.

"Other records relate that the Chief of Bagar, Udai Singh, divided his territory at his death between his two sons, Prithwi Raj and Jagmal."

There is little of note to be found in the history of Banswara, till in 1812, nearly three centuries after its foundation, the then Chief, anxious to get rid of the supremacy of the Mahrattas, offered to become tributary to the British Government. In 1818 a definite treaty was made, and soon afterwards the tribute formerly paid to the Mahratta Chief of Dhar was transferred to the British Government.

His Highness Rai Rayan Maharawal Sri Lachhman Singh, Bahadur, the present

The Chief.

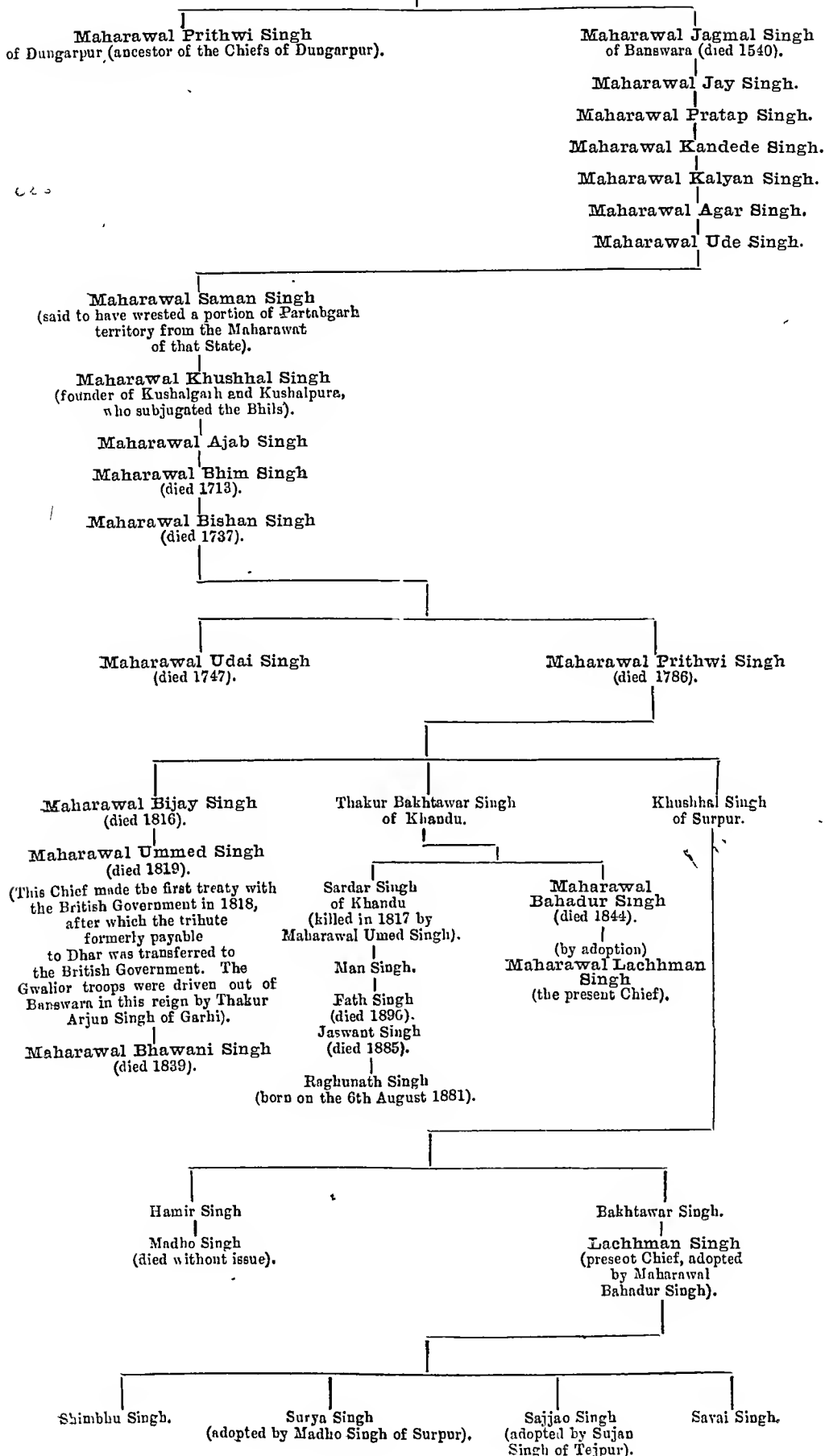
Chief of Banswara, was born in the year 1839, and is a Rajput of the Aharya Gehlot sub-division of the Sesodia clan. His Highness, whose natural father was Bakhtawar Singh, second son of Thakur Khushhal Singh of Surpur in Banswara, was adopted by the late Maharawal Bahadur Singh. The fourteenth Chief of Banswara, Maharawal Prithwi Singh, died in the year 1786, leaving five sons. Of these, the eldest, Bijay Singh succeeded his father, the second, Bakhtawar Singh, received the *jagir* of Khandu, and the third, Khushhal Singh, that of Surpur. Maharawal Bijay Singh was succeeded by his son Umed Singh, and subsequently by his grandson Bhawani Singh, who died in 1839, leaving no son or brother. The nearest relative according to the rule of primogeniture was thus the eldest descendant of Bakhtawar Singh of Khandu, his grandson Man Singh. The Chauhans, who were then the most influential personages in the State, fearing the rivalry of the Khandu family, placed Bahadur Singh, the second son of Bakhtawar Singh, and uncle to Man Singh, on the *gadi* before Man Singh was aware of what was going on. Bahadur Singh, who was old, was persuaded to adopt Lachhman Singh, the infant grandson of Thakur Khushhal Singh of Surpur. Five years later, Maharawal Bahadur Singh died and Lachhman Singh succeeded him. Maharawal Lachhman Singh has been married twelve times, namely, to the daughters of (1) the Raj of Pal in Idar, (2) Maharaj Sheo Singh of Sirohi, (3) Thakur Bakht Singh of Namly in Ratlam, (4) Thakur Jiwau Singh of Bordera in Gujarat, (5) Thakur Zorawar Singh of Sarwan in Ratlam, (6) Thakur Parbat Singh of Posina in Idar, (7) Thakur Kodarji of Pithapur in Mahikanta, (8) Thakur Sher Singh of Bordera in Gujarat, (9) Thakur Kodar Singh of Pithapur, (10) and (11) Thakur Sardar Singh of Molan in Banswara, and (12) Thakur Gulab Singh of Bordera in Gujarat. He has four sons living, the eldest Shimbhu Singh, who was born on the 14th October 1868, being the heir-apparent. Kunwar Shimbhu Singh has five sons, the eldest of whom, Prithi Singh, now studying at the Mayo College at Ajmer, was born on the 15th July 1888. Outside his own family the Chief has no very near relatives. The family most closely connected with His Highness's house is that of Bakhtawar Singh of Khandu, of which the present representative, the fifth in descent from the founder, is Raghunath Singh, who was born on the 6th August 1881.

The descent of the Banswara house through that of Dungarpur from the ruling family of Mewar has already been noticed.

The Maharawal is related by marriage with the Chiefs of Bundi (Hara), Kishangarh, Sailana, and Idar (Rahtor), and Sirohi (Deora).

The following table shows the principal rulers of Banswara :—

MAHARAWAL UDAI SINGH of Dungarpur
(died 1540).



The leading men of Banswara are the hereditary nobles, the Kamdar, and a few office-bearers. The latter are only hereditary in the sense that they hold *jagirs* from the Darbar.

Leading men.

They do not necessarily succeed to any particular office. The Kamdar is generally a foreigner.

As in Mewar, there seem originally to have been sixteen nobles of the first class (*Solah*) of whom eight, Chauhans and Sesodias, sit to the right of the Chief in Darbar. On the left sat formerly eight Rahtors, but the number has now dwindled down to three. In the second class come a number of nobles, chiefly the descendants of the younger sons of former Chiefs, to whom no special place is allotted.

The following are the principal nobles :—

Chauhans.—(1) Thakur Gopal Singh *alias* Sohbat Singh of Mola.

(2) Thakur Balwant Singh of Metwala.

(3) Thakur Pirthi Singh of Arthuna.

(4) Rao Sangram Singh of Garhi.

(5) Thakur Moti Singh of Ganora.

Sesodias.—(6) Bhai Ragunath Singh of Khandu.

(7) Bhai Surya Singh of Surpur.

(8) Thakur Balwant Singh of Kushalpur.

Chauhans.—(9) Thakur Dalpat Singh of Bankura. } These nobles belong to Dungarpur,
(10) Thakur Kesri Singh of Thakorda. } but hold estates in Banswara.
(11) Thakur Dalpat Singh of Mandov. }

Rahtors.—(12) Rao Udai Singh of Kushalgarh.

(13) Thakur Bakhtawar Singh of Tilwara.

(14) Thakur Anup Singh of Orwara.

The *jagirdars* of Khandu and Surpur, who have the title of Bhai, are descended from Maharawal Prithwi Raj, as mentioned in the notice of the Chief. The Bhai of Surpur is by birth the third son of the present Maharawal, who was adopted by Thakur Madho Singh. The Bhai of Kushalpur is a Sesodia of the Sakhtawat branch of the Mewar family. The Chauhan families all claim descent from Raja Prithwi Raj of Delhi and are said to have migrated from the neighbourhood of Samlhar when defeated by the Muhammadans. The Rahtor nobles are all connected with the ruling family of Marwar. All the *Solah* nobles have the *tazim*, which is not enjoyed by any of the others. The Rao of Kushalgarh pays a tribute to the Banswara Darbar of Rs. 1,100 a year and attends when marriages take place in the ruling family, but is in other respects independent of his nominal Chief, the boundary between whose territories and his own has been defined by a British officer. The Rao of Garhi holds a very large estate, but is in no way independent. Of the *Solah* nobles, only the Rao of Garhi, the Thakur of Kushalpur, and the *Jagirdars* of Khandu and Surpur received their estates from the present ruling family. The estates of all the rest date from before the foundation of the separate State. Succession is in all cases by primogeniture, provision being made for the younger sons. All the nobles have to render feudal service when required in person if the Chief himself leads the troops of the State, in other cases by deputy. Tribute is paid by all, save the Rao of Kushalgarh. The custom of levying it apparently originated in the forced contributions taken from the nobles in aid of the blackmail paid by the Chiefs to Sindhia and other Mahrattas and to Pindaris at the beginning of the present century. Until recent years most of the offices in the State were held by descendants of Nima Baniyas settled in Banswara, who accompanied the first Chief from Dungarpur. These now carry on their private trade only, having been superseded by Nagar Brahmans and Oswals entertained by subsequent rulers. These latter still hold minor posts. The only official of importance is the Kamdar, who has for some time been a foreigner. Each occupant of the post has generally secured as many as possible of the posts subordinate to him for his relatives and dependants. The Kamdar supervises all public departments and disposes of the public revenues after consultation with the Chief, with whose private revenues he has no concern.

The following nobles alone call for separate notice :—

(1) Rao Udai Singh of Kushalgarh is a Rahtor of the Ramawat sub-clan. He is nominally subordinate to the Chief, to whom he pays tribute, but in consequence of frequent attempts on the part of the Darbar to claim rights over the estate to which it was not entitled,

Individual nobles.

Kushalgarh.

Kushalgarh was finally decided by the British Government to be practically independent for all purposes other than the payment of tribute and personal attendance at marriages in the Chief's family. The Rao corresponds directly in all matters with the Assistant Resident. The estate, which is populated almost entirely by Bhils, consists of sixty villages situated to the south of Banswara. The annual income is estimated at Rs. 60,000. In addition to the tribute of Rs. 1,100 a year paid to Banswara, Rs. 7,200 are paid annually to Ratlam on account of the *jagir* of Khera comprising sixty villages granted by that State in 1782. The Kushalgarh family is descended from Rao Jodha of Marwar, whose great-grandson, Askarn, obtained a grant of Kushalgarh from the Emperor Anrangzeb. The distinctive name of Ramawat, by which the sub-clan is known, is derived from Ram Singh, the sixth in descent from Rao Jodha. Ram

Singh was killed about 1631 in a war between the Chauhan of Banswara and the Rahtors regarding the succession to the *gadi* of Banswara, which was disputed between the son of a Chauhan and the son of a Rahtor Rani. The latter eventually gained the day. Kushalgarh itself was founded by Akhay Raj in 1670. The title of Rao was conferred on Thakur Zalim Singh by Maharana Bhim Singh of Mewar. The present Rao is the great-grandson of Rao Zalim Singh. He was born in 1855 and succeeded his father Rao Zorawar Singh in 1891. He has three sons, the eldest Ranjit Singh, was born on the 2nd May 1882, a brother, Jaswant Singh, born in 1861, and two nephews. The family of the Rao is closely connected with that of the Rahtor Raja of Jhahua. On the accession of a new Rao to the Kushalgarh estate, the ceremony of *talwar-bandī* (investiture by buckling on a sword) is performed by the Raja, who attends at Kushalgarh for this purpose.

(2) Rao Sangram Singh of Garhi is a Chauhan Rajput. The family of Garhi, which has for some time been the most powerful and influential in Banswara, is of comparatively recent origin in the State. The first of the line, Agar Singh, came from Thakurda in Dungarpur towards the middle of the eighteenth century and received from Maharawal Udai Singh the *jagir* of Wasi. Agar Singh was killed in an attempt to reduce to subjection certain mutinous members of the Maharawal's family, but his son, Udai Singh, brought the enterprise to a successful conclusion and received as his reward the *jagirs* of Navagama, taken from the rebels, and of Garhi. Other villages were added later. For services rendered to the Maharawal of Dungarpur in expelling the Mahrattas, Thakur Arjun Singh subsequently received a grant of villages in that State. Arjun Singh's successor, Thakur Ratu Singh, who was the prime mover in the substitution in the Chiefship of the Surpur line for that of Khandu, received the title of Rao from his son-in-law, the Maharana of Udaipur.

The estate consists of one hundred and fifty villages, of which the majority are situated to the west of Banswara, yields a revenue of about Rs. 80,000, and pays a tribute of Rs. 3,500 to the Darbar. Of the whole estate, one hundred and twenty-five villages, comprised in the district of Chilkari, were conquered by Banswara troops from the neighbouring State of Sunth Rampur in Rewa Kautha and were subsequently bestowed free of tribute on Thakur Agar Singh, the leader of the force. The estate held in Dungarpur is worth about Rs. 7,000 a year. The present Rao, who is a younger brother of the Thakur of Thakurda in Dungarpur, succeeded the late Rao, Gambhir Singh, by adoption in 1890. He was born on the 10th September 1875. Rao Sangram Singh, has been married twice, namely, to the daughter of (1) Rahtor Thakur of Semlia in Sailana, (2) Sesodia Ranavat Pertab Singh, Rawat of Dhariawad in Mewar, but has no son. His nearest relation is Thakur Kesri Singh of Thakurda in the Dungarpur State. For the last three generations, the successor to the estate has on failure of natural issue been adopted from Thakurda.

(3) Maharaj Raghunath Singh of Khandu, owing to his kinship with the ruling Chief called the Bhai of Khandu, is a Sesodia Rajput descended from Maharawal Prithwi Singh (1747-86). An account of the origin and descent of the family has been given in the sketch of the Chief. The estate, which is situated to the east of Banswara, comprises thirty villages with an annual income of Rs. 30,000. In consideration of the succession to the Chiefship of a junior branch of the family the tribute was reduced to the nominal sum of Rs. 400. Maharaj Raghunath Singh was born on the 6th August 1881, and succeeded his grandfather Fath Singh in 1890. He has one son, Sajjan Singh. During the minority of the Maharaj, the estate was under the management of the Darbar.

(4) Thakur Gopal Singh *alias* Sobbat Singh of Molan is a Chauhan Rajput of the Kalianmalate clan, and is in point of descent the leading noble of Banswara, his ancestors having held an important *jagir* on the east side of the Mahi river under the Dungarpur Darbar before the separation of the two States. Until the days of Maharawal Prithwi Singh, by whom a considerable portion of the estate was confiscated and transferred to Garhi, Molan was the most important estate in Banswara, being worth about a lakh of rupees. The present value of the seven villages to which it has been reduced is only Rs. 8,000. Rupees 551 are payable as tribute to the Darbar. Thakur Gopal Singh, who was born on the 18th August 1877, succeeded his cousin Madan Singh in January 1890. The Thakurs of Metwala and Arthuna are the heads of the junior branches of the Molan family.

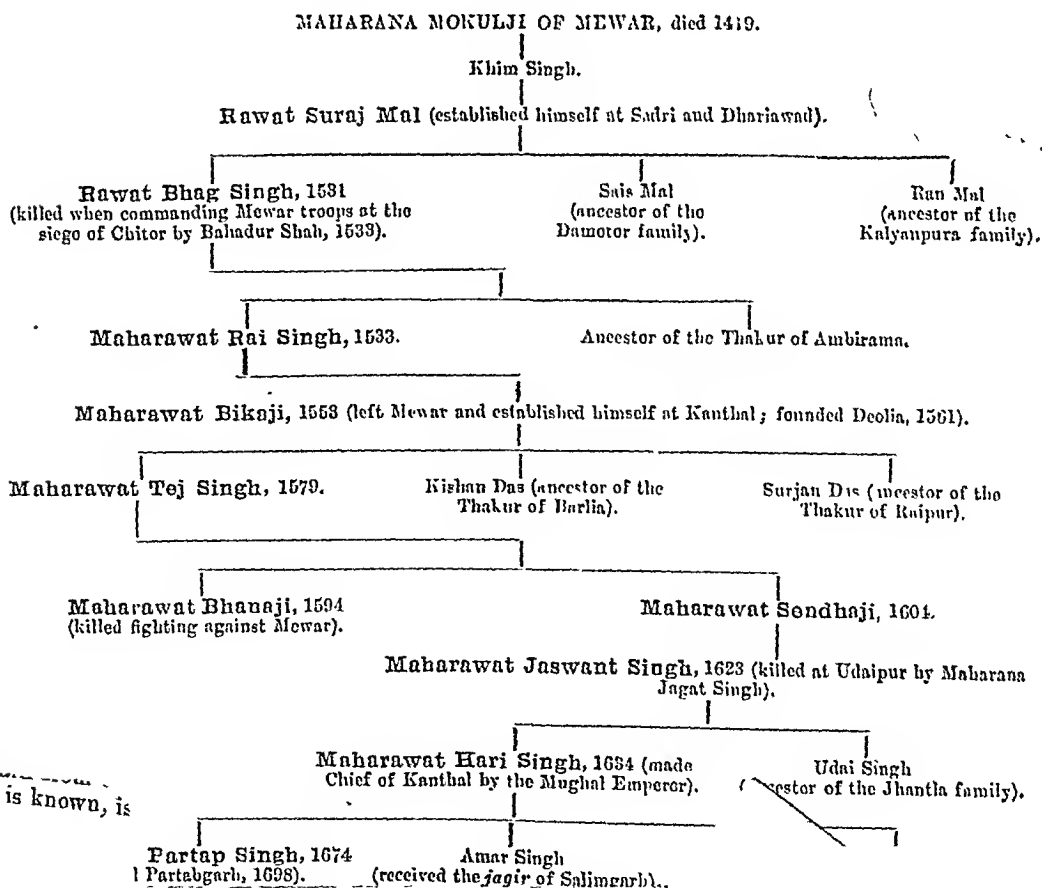
PARTABGARH.

The Partabgarh family according to local accounts is descended from Khim Singh, second son of Rana Mokul and younger brother of Rana Kumbhu, who held the throne of Mewar from 1419 to 1474. Khim Singh's second son, Suraj Mal, possessed himself of the Sadri and Dhariawad districts. In 1535, when Chitor was invested by Bahadur Shah of Gujarat, Bhag Singh, the eldest son of Suraj Mal, headed the defence, and sacrificed his life for the safety of Udai Singh, the infant son of Rana Sanga. Bhag Singh was succeeded at Sadri by his son Rai Singh. In 1553, Rai Singh's son Bikaji is said to have left Mewar and, after residing for some years at Giaspur near Deolia, finally defeated and killed a powerful Bhil chieftain named Devi, and founded the town of Deogarh or Deolia in 1561. Bika may, therefore, be considered the real founder of the Partabgarh State, though it was not known by that name

Muhabbat Khan after the defeat of the latter by the Emperor Jahangir. Afterwards when restored to favour Muhabbat Khan remembered the kindness received and furthered the cause of Hari Singh, Bhawa's grandson, at the Court of Delhi. Bhawa was killed in battle fighting for the Governor of Mandisor against the Rana of Udaipur in 1604. His nephew, Jaswant Singh, who succeeded to the *gadi* in 1623, being considered dangerously powerful, was invited to Udaipur and, together with his eldest son, was treacherously killed by Rana Jagat Singh. Kanthal was occupied by Mewar troops. Nine years later, Jaswant Singh's second son, Hari Singh, being taken to Delhi by the Thakur of Damotar, succeeded, partly by the interest of Muhabbat Khan and partly by his own skill and address, in getting himself recognized as an independent Chief by the Emperor Shah Jahan, who bestowed on him the district of Kbanthal of which the value is said to have then been nine lakhs of rupees. On his return the Mewar troops were withdrawn and Hari Singh established himself at Deolia, built a palace and gradually brought into subjection the whole tract now known as Partabgarh. His tribute to the Emperor of Delhi was fixed at Rs. 15,000, and he was granted the title of Maharaj Dhiraj Maharawat. Hari Singh was succeeded in 1674 by his son Partab Singh, the founder of the town of Partabgarh, from which the State now takes its name. An attempt made in this reign by the Maharana of Udaipur to recover Kanthal was unsuccessful and ended in the death of Ram Singh, the heir-apparent of Mewar. Prithwi Singh, who succeeded his father in 1708, was received with much courtesy at Delhi and was granted the right to coin money, which was renewed fifty years later to his grandson Salim Singh. The Salim Shahi rupee is the principal coin of Partabgarh and the adjoining districts to this day. In the next reign, that of Sanwant Singh (1775-1824), the country was overrun by the Mahrattas, and the Maharawat only saved his State from destruction by agreeing to pay to Holkar a tribute of Salim Shahi Rs. 72,000* instead of the tribute formerly paid to Delhi. Holkar's tribute is still levied by the British Government and paid over to Indore.

The first connection of the State with the British Government took place in 1804, when a treaty was entered into which was dissolved by Lord Cornwallis a little later. In 1818 a fresh treaty was made which is still in force. Maharawat Sanwant Singh died in 1844, his son Dip Singh and the latter's eldest son Kesri Singh having predeceased him. In the meantime Dalsat Singh, Dip Singh's second son, had been adopted by Maharawal Jaswant Singh of Dungarpur and had succeeded to that State in 1825. It was decided by the British Government that Dalsat Singh who, on Maharawat Sanwant Singh's death, had become the nearest heir to Partabgarh, could not be allowed to succeed to both Chiefships. He, therefore, relinquished Dungarpur in favour of his adopted son Ude Singh, son of the Thakur of Sabli, and was installed as Maharawat of Partabgarh. On his death, he was succeeded by his son Ude Singh, the late Chief.

The following is an abstract genealogical tree of the Partabgarh Chief's family:—



The present Chief is His Highness Maharawat Raghunath Singh Bahadur, who was born in the year 1859. His Highness, as has been shown above, is a Sesodia Rajput, descended from the ruling house of Mewar. His natural father was Maharaj Khushhal Singh of Arnod, third in descent from Lal Singh, younger brother of Maharawat Sawant Singh (1774-1824). The late Chief Maharawat Udai Singh having died in February 1889 without a legitimate successor, either natural or adopted, his widow adopted Raghunath Singh, the nearest relative.

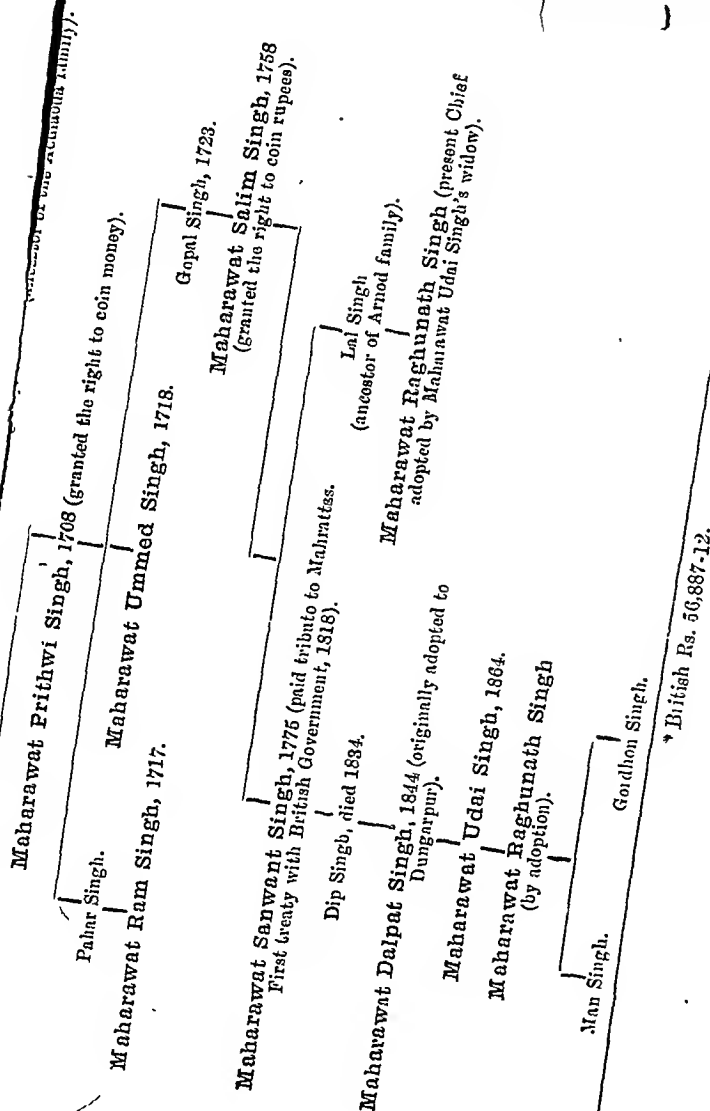
His Highness has been thrice married, first to the daughter of the Thakur of Pisangan in Ajmer, second to the daughter of the Maharaj of Semla in Sailana and third to a younger daughter of the Thakur of Pisangan. By the senior of these Ranis, who died in 1891, His Highness has one son, Man Singh, and by his third Rani another son, named Gordhan Singh, born in 1885 and 1900, respectively. His Highness has also two daughters, the eldest of whom is married to His Highness the Maharaja of Bikaner. He has no near relatives on the male side, the closest connection being Thakur Kushhal Singh of Salimgarh, whose family is descended directly from Amar Singh, third son of Maharawat Hari Singh who succeeded to the Partabgarh *gadi* in 1634. The present Chief and the Thakur of Salimgarh have ninth in descent from a common ancestor.

His mother was a daughter of the Maharaj of Fathgarh in Kishangarh. His late Maharawat, was a daughter of the Rautor Thakur

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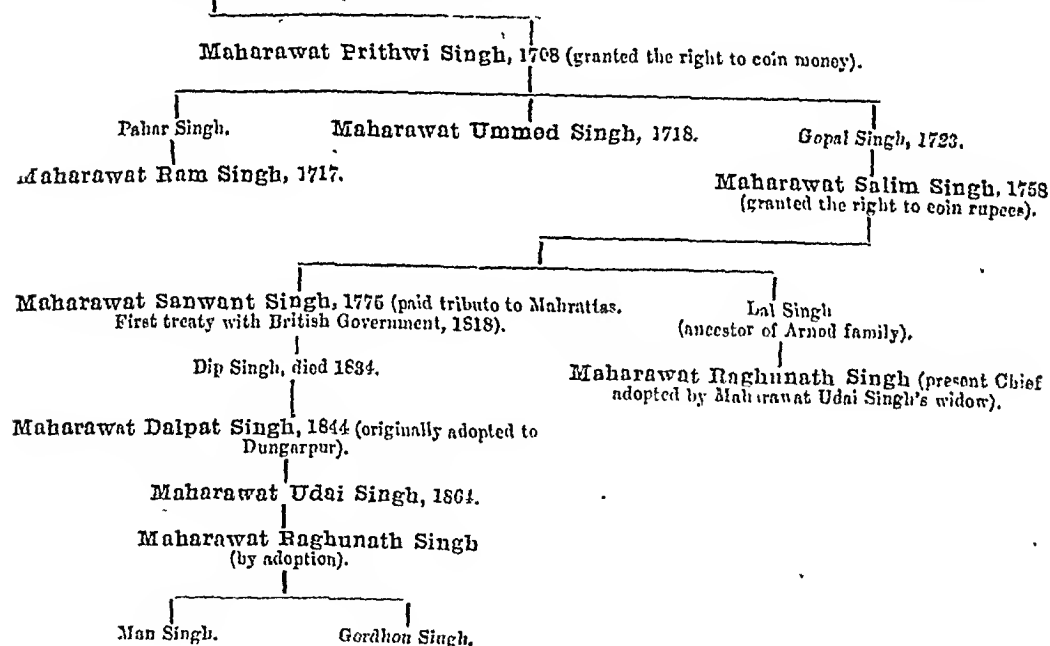


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family. The pres
great-grandfather, Thakur Ror Singh, had
married Maharaja Takht Singh, then Chief
Marwar, who bestowed the *jagir* of Jhalawand on
On Ror Singh's death in 1848, his eldest son
and subsequently, having no male issue, adopted Thakur
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* See page 20.
The same name is applied to the local dialect.

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* British Rs. 56,887-12.

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His Highness has been thrice married, first to the daughter of the Thakur of Pisangan in Ajmer, second to the daughter of the Maharaj of Semlia in Sailana and third to a younger daughter of the Thakur of Pisangan. By the senior of these Ranis, who died in 1891, His Highness has one son, Man Singh, and by his third Rani another son, named Gordhan Singh, born in 1885 and 1900, respectively. His Highness has also two daughters, the eldest of whom is married to His Highness the Maharaja of Bikaner. He has no near relatives on the male side, the closest connection being Thakur Kushhal Singh of Salimgarh, whose family is descended directly from Amar Singh, third son of Maharawat Hari Singh who succeeded to the Partabgarh *gadi* in 1634. The present Chief and the Thakur of Salimgarh have ninth in descent from a common ancestor.

The Chief's natural mother was a daughter of the Maharaj of Fathgarh in Kishangarh. His adoptive mother, the widow of the late Maharawat, was a daughter of the Rahtor Thakur of Namli in Rutlam.

The leading men of the State consist of hereditary nobles, hereditary office-bearers, non-hereditary officials, hereditary bards, priests, etc.

The hereditary nobles are all Rajputs and are fifty in number, nearly all of them being descended from some member of the ruling family. They possess altogether one hundred and sixteen villages with an annual income of about two and a half lakhs of rupees, and pay Rs. 32,296 as tribute to the Darbar.

Of the nobles only nine, who are considered to belong to the first class, are entitled to the *tazim*. They are all Sesodias and take rank as follows:—

| | |
|---------------------------|---------------------------|
| 1. The Thakur of Damotar. | 5. The Thakur of Jhantla. |
| 2. Do. Kalyanpura. | 6. Do. Barlia. |
| 3. Do. Anvira. | 7. Do. Salimgarh. |
| 4. Do. Raipur. | 8. Do. Achlaoda. |
| 9. The Thakur of Arnod. | |

Their estates were presented to the ancestors of the present holders directly by the Chief, in some cases as a reward for special service, in others as maintenance for younger sons and brothers. Succession is always by primogeniture, adoption in case of failure of issue being generally permitted and recognized by the Darbar. Besides the annual tribute, the nobles are expected to render military and police service in accordance with their means, to report to the Darbar all heinous offences committed within their estates, and to be present at the capital at certain annual festivals and other special occasions, when summoned.

The hereditary office-bearers are mostly Bagria* mahajans, who hold *jagirs* for services rendered by their ancestors and receive small salaries according to the actual appointment which they hold. A few Nagar Brahmins, Muhammadans, and Kayasthas hold office as occasion requires, but are not hereditary *jagirdars*. The family priests of the Chief (*Purohits*) are Amaitha Brahmins and the State priests (*Karmantris*) are Tarwari Mewar Brahmins. These hold *jagirs*, as do the *Dasunds* or family bards (*Bhats*), of whom the present representative is Dasundi Chandan Singh, and the Charans, of whom the Raos of Sanchair and of Isardar are the heads.

Individual persons of note.

The following personages call for individual notice:—

- (1) Thakur Hindu Singh of Damotar, a Sesodia Rajput, is the senior noble of the State, and sits first on the right hand of the Chief in Darbar.

Damotar.

On the demise of a Chief, the Thakur of Damotar takes temporary charge of affairs, and after consultation with the widows of the late Chief and any influential nobles who may be present at the time, installs the new ruler. No accession without his intervention would be recognized as valid. The family is descended from Sahis Mal, younger brother of Bhag Singh, who after the latter's death at Chitor settled at Nimbahera. Some seventy years later, in 1571, Kamalji, Sahisnial's son, received a *jagir* in Kanthal. Kamalji was killed at Haldighat in 1575 fighting for the Maharana of Mewar against the Emperor Akbar. The estate, which comprises eleven villages of the estimated value of Rs. 60,000 and pays an annual tribute of Rs. 6,000, is situated to the north of Partabgarh. The Thakur is closely related to the Jodhpur family. The present Thakur succeeded his father, Thakur Kesri Singh, in 1894. His great-grandfather, Thakur Ror Singh, had three sons and two daughters. One of the latter married Maharaja Takht Singh, then Chief of Ahmadnagar, and afterwards ruler of Marwar, who bestowed the *jagir* of Jhalavand on Gambhir Singh, Ror Singh's second son. On Ror Singh's death in 1848, his eldest son Thakur Hamir Singh succeeded him, and subsequently, having no male issue, adopted Thakur Kesri Singh, the second son of his brother Gambhir Singh.

* See page 29. The tract comprised in the Banswara, Dungarpur and Partabgarh States is known as *Bagar*. The same name is applied to the local dialect.

(2) **Thakur Ratan Singh of Raipur** is a Sesodia Rajut of the Ramawat sub-clan, so called from Ram Das, the first Thakur. He occupies the first seat in Darbar on the left of the Chief. The estate, which is situated 20 miles to the south of Partabgarh, consists of eight villages with an annual rental of Rs. 38,000. The tribute payable to the Darbar is Rs. 4,362. The estate was bestowed on Ram Das, son of Surjan Das, third son of Maharawat Bhikaji (1553-79) as a reward for subduing the Bhil tribes. The Raipur Thakur, in addition to the revenue from his own villages, receives tribute from the Thakurs of Manpura and Kangarh and the produce of a small estate in Gwalior. The Thakurs of Manpura and Kangarh are descended from Man Singh and Kan Singh, the second and third sons of Thakur Ram Das. In 1789, during the time of Dal Singh, the eighth Thakur, the Ramawats were driven from their estates by the Parawat family, but with the aid of the Darbar, recovered them six years later when the Parawats were expelled to Dhar.

(3) **Thakur Devi Singh of Kalyanpura** is a descendant of Ran Mal, third son of Suraj Mal, a brother of Bhag Singh. He holds the second place on the right in Darbar. The estate of Kalyanpura comprises two villages with a revenue of Rs. 8,000 and pays a tribute of Rs. 2,195 to the Darbar. Ran Mal, the founder of the house, was killed in the service of Mewar in a boundary dispute with Bundi in 1541. His son Sultan Singh, who commanded the Mewar troops against Muhabbat Khan, received as a reward for his success the *jagir* of Bhairwi in Udaipur, together with the *Sonad* (grant) of *Kurba* (the insignia of royalty) and was raised to the rank of a first-class noble. When Bikaji established himself in Deolia in 1561, Sultan Singh accompanied him and received a *jagir*. Kalyan Singh, who succeeded to the estate in 1614, received a grant of a village in Mandisor from the Subah of that place for his services in repressing the Giasias. This estate is still held by the descendants of his younger brother Madho Singh. Thakur Ranchor Das successfully led an army to repel an attack from the Subah of Mandisor.

(4) **Thakur Sammat Singh of Barlia** is descended from Kishan Das, second son of Maharawat Bikaji. Of the nine sons of Kishan Das, the eldest, Jeth Singh, succeeded to the Chiefship of Salumbar by adoption. The remainder accompanied him to Mewar. In 1678 Maharawat Pratap Singh, on his return from a visit to Salumbar, brought with him Manohar Das, son of Janiji, the ninth son of Kishan Das, and bestowed on him the *jagir* of Barlia. The estate, which is situated to the north of Partabgarh on the Gwalior border, comprises two villages with a revenue of Rs. 8,000, paying a tribute of Rs. 1,822. Thakur Sammat Singh succeeded his father Thakur Lal Singh in 1901.

(5) **Thakur Madho Singh of Achlaoda** is a descendant of Thakur Madho Singh, third son of Maharawat Hari Singh (1634-74). The estate, which is situated nine miles to the south of Partabgarh, comprises seven villages with a revenue of Rs. 8,000 and pays a tribute of Rs. 1,833. The present Thakur, who was born in 1865, succeeded his father Thakur Ratan Singh in 1869. He has no sons living.

(6) **Thakur Takht Singh of Jhantala** is a descendant of Kesri Singh, third son of Maharawat Jaswant Singh, who was killed at Udaipur in 1684. The estate is situated fifteen miles north of Partabgarh. It comprises five villages with an annual rental of Rs. 12,000 and pays a tribute of Rs. 1,416 to the Darbar. Thakur Takht Singh succeeded his father Thakur Lal Singh in 1861. He was born in 1829 and has three sons, the eldest of whom is named Pratap Singh.

BHUMIA AND GRASSIA CHIEFS OF THE HILLY TRACTS OF MEWAR.

The Bhumia Chiefs of Jawas and Bara are Sambri Chohans. Amongst the Chohans who came to Rajputana, two of the divisions are called "Sambris" and "Purbyas." Those who settled to the south of Sambhar are known by the former title, while those who first went eastwards from Sambhar and afterwards returned to Rajputana are described as Purbyas from the word "purab," east. Amongst the former are the Chiefs of Guhi and Arbhuna of Banswara and those of Jawas and Para in the Bhumat or Hilly Tracts of Mewar, whilst the Rao of Bedla, the Rawat of Kotharia, Rao of Parsoli, of Mewar, and the Rawat of Jura amongst the Grassia Chiefs in the Kotra district have the epithet of Purhya Chohans.

Rao Lukumsi, the progenitor of the family, is said to have originally left Sambhar for Marwar and eleven generations afterwards, two brothers descendant of his Ganga and Manak, appear to have found their way in A.D. 1262 to Deo Somnath in Dungarpur, and afterwards to have attacked and killed Grassia Bansia Jograj, the Chief, and to have taken possession of Jawas, then the capital of what was called Khara district of 700 villages. They divided the district between them, Ganga taking Para, and Manak, the younger of the two Jawas.

In A.D. 1746 the Rao of Salumbar attacked Jawas, killed the Chief Rao Himmat Singh, and took possession of the estate; but it was recovered in 1756 by Himmat Singh's son Rao Natha.

The estate was ravaged again in 1759 by the Salumbar troops, and in 1824 it was confiscated by Maharana Bheem Singh of Udaipur, but was subsequently restored.

The late Rao Amar Singh was the son of the famous Dolut Singh, Thakur of Babulwara, who was foremost in opposing the Government in A.D. 1826-27.

Dolut Singh was the most influential leader of the Bhils in these tracts. In the course of time he was won over to our side, and, on the Mewar Bhil Corps being raised, was appointed to it as paid Thakur. Dolut Singh died in 1841, and was succeeded in the regiment by his son, Amar Singh, then only a child of three years of age. Amar Singh succeeded to the Jawas estate in December 1874, on the death of his nephew, Bhairun Singh, retaining the Thakurati Babulwara and the appointment of Regimental Thakur. In 1877 his name was removed from the regiment for neglect in the matter of the arrest of two deserters from the corps, but he was re-instated in the position as a reward for the energy and loyalty displayed by him in the Bhil Disturbances of 1881. The present Rao Ratan Singh, succeeded Amar Singh in 1894.

Jawas, the capital of the estate, is situated on the right bank of the river Som, six miles distant by road from the station of Kherwara. The estate comprises 55 villages, yielding, before the famine of 1899-1900, an annual revenue of 30,000 Udaipuri rupees, but now it is estimated that the revenue will be only about 11,000. Two thousand five hundred Udaipuri rupees are paid to the Mewar Darbar as "Chatund." There are two or three villages in Para, Chani, and Thana in which Jawas has certain rights. The Rao has no male issue. He is the wealthiest and first in rank of all the Bhumia Chiefs.

The Rao has 23 armed retainers.

Genealogical Tree of the Jawas family.

- | | |
|---------------------|----------------------|
| 1. Manakji. | 16. Surat Singh. |
| 2. Gegaji. | 17. Shatru Salji. |
| 3. Sabal Singh. | 18. Samarth Singhji. |
| 4. Kaloji. | 19. Khusal Singh. |
| 5. Bhojraj. | 20. Dolut Singh. |
| 6. Sekhaji. | 21. Umed Singh. |
| 7. Bhimaji. | 22. Bukht Singh. |
| 8. Shiv Singh. | 23. Himmut Singh. |
| 9. Bagaji. | 24. Nathuji. |
| 10. Chundra Bhanji. | 25. Ragunath Singh. |
| 11. Jaswant Singh. | 26. Jeswant Singh. |
| 12. Suruj Mal. | 27. Bhim Singh. |
| 13. Jait Singh. | 28. Bhairav Singh. |
| 14. Amar Singh I. | 29. Amar Singh II. |
| 15. Sirdar Singh. | 30. Ratan Singh. |

PAHARA OR PARA.

For early history, see Jawas.

Badan Singh, the present Rawut of Para, succeeded his father Lukshman Singh, who died in the year 1894. He is now about 25 years of age.

The Rawut manages his estate badly.

In the Bhil Disturbance of 1881 Lukshman Singh gained the thanks of the Agent to the Governor-General for Rajputana for the energy he displayed in arresting 13 out of the 14 of the perpetrators of certain mail robberies which took place at that time.

Badan Singh married the sister of the Samya Thakur.

He has no issue. Para is twelve miles distant from the cantonment of Kherwara. The estate now comprises 32 villages of the annual value of Udaipuri rupees 7000, of which 725 goes annually to the Mewar Darbar as "Chatund." The Rawut keeps 15 men as armed followers. Before the famine 1899-1900 the estate consisted of 43 villages, the revenue of which was 14,000 Udaipuri rupees. Sixteen villages are now deserted.

Genealogical Tree of the Pahara family.

- | | |
|---------------------|------------------------|
| 1. Rawut Gangaji. | 14. Rawut Keshavdasji. |
| 2. Hekaji. | 15. Gopinathji. |
| 3. Bunbirji. | 16. Sahib Singhji. |
| 4. Malji I. | 17. Birumdeoji. |
| 5. Kuriunji. | 18. Nathuji. |
| 6. Lunji. | 19. Urjunsinghji II. |
| 7. Urjun Singhji I. | 20. Udai Singhji. |
| 8. Devi Singhji. | 21. Dowlut Singhji. |
| 9. Miraji. | 22. Chatar Singhji. |
| 10. Malji II. | 23. Suraj Malji. |
| 11. Akshai Rajji. | 24. Nabur Singhji. |
| 12. Pemjaji. | 25. Khuman Singhji. |
| 13. Bhimsinghji. | 26. Lukshman Singhji. |
| | 27. Badan Singh. |

The Rao of Madri claims descent from a younger son of Ajaji Rawat of Kanor of Mewar second son of Maharana Lakha. The head of this

(the Madri) family is said to have been Maldeo, who founded Madri in 1548. The late Rao Raghunath Singh succeeded his father in 1851; he was then 15 years of age. He married first, a daughter of the Thakur of Bag in Jura, by whom he had two sons and three daughters, and second, a cousin of the Jura Rawat, by whom he also had issue. The family now consists of four brothers and one sister. The eldest Bakh-tawar Singh, aged 47 years, is married to the daughter of Zorawar Singh, uncle to the former

Rao of Para. He succeeded to the Madri estate on the death of Raghunath Singh in 1900. The second is Ranjit Singh, aged 35 years, the third Partap Singh, 28 years, the fourth Manobur Singh, aged 20.

The Rao's father was an intelligent man, though of rather a hard and grasping nature, and at one time he rendered himself somewhat unpopular by resorting to distasteful measures for adding to his revenue. In April 1882, however, Colonel Conolly, with the assistance of the Rao's eldest son (the present Rao), put matters between the Rao and his Bhils on a more satisfactory footing, and affairs have since worked well.

The capital of the estate Madri lies north-north-west of Kherwara from which it is distant thirty miles.

The estate now consists of nine villages of the annual value of Udaipuri rupees 6,000, of which Udaipuri rupees 500 is paid as "Chatund" to the Mewar Darbar.

The Rao maintains fourteen armed followers.

In common with other estates Madri suffered severely in the 1899-1900 famine, when the number of villages was reduced from 22 to 9, and the revenue from Rs. 11,000 to Rs. 6,000. The Rao has no male issue.

Genealogical Tree of the Madri family.

- | | |
|---|----------------------|
| 1. Maldeo. | 8. Nath Singh. |
| 2. Nathji. | 9. Punaji. |
| 3. Hari Singh. | 10. Samunt Singh. |
| 4. Shamaldass. | 11. Lal Singh. |
| 5. Bhim Singh. | 12. Chatar Singh. |
| 6. Kesri Singh. | 13. Prithvi Singh. |
| 7. Dulat Singh. | 14. Raghunath Singh. |
| 15. Bakhtawar Singh, the present Rawut. | |

The Rawut of Jura, a Grassia Chief of the hilly tracts of Mewar, is a Purhya Chohan whose ancestor Rawut Putta is said to have come from Idar in Mahikantha in A.D. 1398, and

Jura,

to have taken possession of the lands in the neighbourhood of Jura from a Bhil named Jugja. Little is known of the history of the Jura family from the time they settled themselves in this wild tract of country, ever since inhabited by them, until the British Government came on the scene in 1827 when Captain Speirs having settled (I quote mainly from the Brooke's History of the hill tracts of Mewar and reclamation of the Bhils) affairs in the Kherwara distriet, proceeded to arrange the Grassia States of Oghna, Panurwa and Jura. Supremacy over these States had been claimed by the Maharana of Mewar, though it could not be shown that they ever paid tribute to Mewar or performed any service that might be deemed one of vassalage. Sir Charles Metcalfe had previously written in reply to this demand by the Rana:—"Those Chiefs whom we found independent whom our mediation was established in this part of India are still in equity independent; and we ought not to lend our aid to reduce them to subjection. All that we require from them is the security of our subjects and allies against the predatory irruptions of their people, and a safe passage through their territory for travellers and merchandise." In consequence of this decision Jura and Panurwa for time retained their independence, whilst Oghna offered a voluntary fealty to Udaipur.

In A.D. 1828 an affray had taken place between the Grassias and some Kabul merchants at the village of Keear in Jura territory, not more than ten miles from Pindwara of Sirohi, in which 21 of the merchants lost their lives and the whole of their property was plundered. A few years after this a party of one Havildar, one Naick and fifteen privates of the 21st Bombay Regiment Native Infantry were attacked in the Girwar Pass near Mount Abu, and eight of their number killed and five wounded. The Rao of Sirohi sent in a list of 22 men as the murderers, most of whom were residents of Kherah-Kaserai in the Jura country. As no measures in spite of the frequent remonstrances of the Political Agent were taken by the Rao of Jura to arrest the murderers, orders were issued for taking possession of and sequestering to the British Government the territory of the Rao of Jura. A force was sent with this purpose, but the Rao of Jura met the force on the borders of his territory and no resistance was offered. Punishment was meted out to the offending village, but as it was found that the revenues of Jura would not cover the expense of its management, the estate was made over to the Maharana of Udaipur. When the Mewar Bhil Corps was raised in 1841, seven companies were enlisted for Kherwara. The post for the Jura country, consisting of three companies, was raised in 1844 and fixed at Kotra, which has ever since been the headquarters of the Second-in-Command of the Corps, who is also Second Assistant to the Resident in Mewar, and carries on, in connection with a Mewar Vakil attached to him, all political duties connected with the three Grassia Chiefs of Panurwa, Oghna, and Jura.

The capital of the estate Jura is in latitude $24^{\circ}30'$, longitude $73^{\circ}16'$, and situated 13 miles as the crow flies from Kotra. The estate comprises 22 villages with an approximate revenue of Udaipuri rupees 12,000, out of which a sum of Udaipuri rupees 600 is paid annually as Chatund to the Mewar Darbar.

The Rawut has an armed force of forty men.

The present Rawut Sheo Singh is the son of the former Rawut Zorawar Singh, whose father was Rawut Guman Singh.

Sheo Singh is about 40 years of age, can read and write Hindi, and became Rawut in A.D. 1900. He has no son, but one brother Partap Singh.

Zorawar Singh was well intentioned, but intensely indolent and apathetic; his sons were absolutely uneducated and owing to his affairs having become deeply involved, the management of the estate had been in the hands of the Second Assistant to the Resident in Mewar since April 1876.

Family Tree of the Jura House.

- | | |
|--|--|
| 1. Rawut Putta. | 11. Rawut Sangram Singh. |
| 2. " Kumbha. | 12. " Akhai raj, died without issue, was succeeded by his younger brother. |
| 3. " Natha Singh died without issue, was succeeded by his uncle. | 13. " Jagat Singh. |
| 4. " Birsingh. | 14. " Nahar Singh, died without issue, was succeeded by his uncle. |
| 5. " Narayandass. | 15. " Ratan Singh, died without issue, was succeeded by his brother. |
| 6. " Narsinghdass. | 16. " Surut Singh. |
| 7. " Mansingh. | 17. " Gooman Singh. |
| 8. " Bhagwandas. | 18. " Zorawar Singh. |
| 9. " Jait Singh. | |
| 10. " Dileep Singh. | |

19. Rawut Sheo Singh.

The family of the Rawut of Oghna have the same descent as that of Panarwa. Nahruji, the second son of Harpal, No. 4 of the Panarwa List, received 12 villages in addition to Rajpur and Kumharbas. At that time one Oodeyraj Duddhia Brahman ruled at Oghna, which then comprised 60 villages. The Bhils however would not obey their Brahman ruler and were constantly committing robberies and other crimes. Upon this Oodeyraj gave two villages in jaghir to Nahruji on condition of his protection. In return for this Nahruji treacherously murdered his benefactor at the festival of the Dusserah in A.D. 1585, and possessed himself of his lands.

In A.D. 1599 a fight took place between the Raja of Idar (probably Narayandas was the then ruler of Idar) and the Rawut of Jura. The Rawut of Oghna, who was fighting on Jura's side, was killed with his leader. The son of the then Rawut of Jura gave to the son of the then Rawut of Oghna the village of Bura as "Mundkati" (ransom for the head) of the Rawut. The present Rawut Umara Singh succeeded to the estate in A.D. 1871. Umara Singh is an intelligent man, whose thriving little estate does credit to his management as a Ruler. Oghna is situated in latitude 24°31', longitude 73°24', sixteen miles as the crow flies north-east of Kotra, on the left bank of the river Wakal. The estate now consists of 17 villages of the annual value of Udaipuri rupees 7,000, of which 400 is paid as "Chatund" to the Mewar Darbar. The Rawut has two sons, Kishore Singh and Ajey Singh, aged 16 and 14 years, respectively.

Genealogical Tree of the Oghna family.

- | | |
|--|--------------------------------------|
| 1. Nahruji, second son of Hurpalji, first Rana of Panurwa. | 7. Sujau Singh. |
| 2. Deviraj. | 8. Deo Singh. |
| 3. Doongur Singh. | 9. Somunt Singh. |
| 4. Keshri Singh. | 10. Lal Singh. |
| 5. Ajmul. | 11. Hamir Singh. |
| 6. Jeshraj. | 12. Kishen Singh. |
| | 13. Umara Singh (the present Rawut). |

The original founder of the Grassia estate of Panurwa was Akshai Raj, who was the grandson of Bhijraj Solankhi (for an account of whom see under head of Rupnagar). The

second son of Bhojraj was Godaji, who had a son Sultan Singh. Sultan Singh had seven sons, all of whom left their ancestral homes and came to the hilly tracts of Mewar, and took up positions in the neighbourhood of the village of Manpur. Akshai Raj, the eldest of the seven brothers, attacked and killed Jioraj, a Jadu Rajput, and took possession of Panurwa, in A.D. 1478; Jioraj, his son Oodeybhanji, and several hundreds of Jadus and Solunkhis were killed in the encounter, but the latter were victorious and became the masters of Panurwa. Akshai Raj's six younger brothers, and it is said Akshairaj himself, inter-married with the Bhil women of the country and have ever since been considered as out-caste by their Rajput brethren. Akshai Raj was succeeded by Raj Singh, who erected a "Duri Khana" or reception hall and a pavilion in the village of Jurol. Raj Singh was followed by Mahi Pal, who built a residence and a temple to Mahadeo in a cave amongst the hills near Panurwa in A.D. 1546. Harpal succeed Mahi Pal and did good service to Maharana Oodey Singh, who took refuge in the hills, when attacked by Akbar, and in return for these services received from the Maharana the title of Runna or Rana. Harpal was followed by his eldest son Deeda; his second son was named Nahruji. In succession to Deeda came Punja, who was present with several hundred men, probably Bhils, on the occasion of the battle of Haldighat, fought in A.D. 1577 between Maharana Pratap Singh and Kunwar Man Singh of Amber, aided by the troops of Akbar. Punja, however, fled with his men at the crisis of the fight.

It is recorded that Maharana Umar Singh, the successor of Maharana Pratap Singh, sent for Rup Singh, the younger son of Punja, to Udaipur when he, with a party of his men, were induced to ascend a stair in the "Kunwar-pada-ka-mahal," heir-apparent's palace, and that when they did so the doors were closed behind them and blocked up with brick and mortar,

and that all the unfortunate victims died of suffocation. This atrocious deed is said to have been committed in A.D. 1619 in revenge for the flight of Punja from the battle-field of Haldi-ghat; but as the fight took place forty-two years prior to this wholesale series of murders, there was probably some other cause for the atrocity. Punja, it is said, though summoned did not come to Udaipur, and when pressed by the State troops took refuge in the hills, he came, in fact, an outlaw.

A lady belonging to the household of the Rao of Idar was on her way to some place when Punja seized and kept possession of her. To avenge this outrage on his honour the Rao of Idar attacked Punja, and in the fight that ensued, Punja with 300 of his followers was slain. The lady became Sati with Punja's body. This occurred in 1624 (according to Forbes, Kulyan Mal was probably the Rao of Idar at that time). The present Grassia Chief of Panurwa is Arjun Singh, his father Bhowani Singh was the eldest son of the late Rao of Oghna, Kishen Singh. On the death in November 1852 of Runna Pratap Singh there was no direct heir to the Runnaship as Partap Singh's only son, Zorawar Singh, had been murdered in 1847.

Partap Singh's widow, however, declared that the deceased Runna had intended adopting Bhowani Singh, who was descended from a branch of the Panurwa family, about ten generations removed.

Another claimant, however, appeared in Buddun Singh, son of Bijoy Singh, Thakur of Adivas, a Jaghir of Panurwa, being descended from a branch of the family only three or four generations removed. Bhowani Singh's party, however, put the rival claimant to flight, but in consequence of Bhowani Singh, allowing a deputation from Idar (of the Mahi Kantha) to fasten a turban on his head prior to obtaining the sanction of the Mewar Darbar to his succession, he was summarily deposed by the Maharana of Udaipur, who then installed Bijoy Singh as Runna. In a few months the excesses of Bijoy Singh caused the Udaipur Darbar to depose him, and to reinstall Bhowani Singh. Bhowani Singh died in November 1881, and left two sons, *viz.*, Arjun Singh, the present Runna, who is about 42 years of age, and Madho Singh about 35.

The capital of the Panurwa State is Manpore, situated in latitude $24^{\circ}15'$, longitude $73^{\circ}20'$, 11 miles, as the crow flies, south-east of Kotra on the left bank of the river Wakal.

There are altogether 60 villages belonging to the estate yielding an annual revenue of Rs. 9,013 Udaipuri rupees, of which 500 are paid annually as "Chatund" to the Mewar Darbar.

The approximate annual value of the 44 villages belonging to *Jagirdars* is Imperial rupees 3,175. The Ora Thakur is the only *Jagirdar* who pays any tribute, the sum at which at he is assessed is Imperial rupees 95 annually. The other two *Jagirdars*, Umria and Adivas, pay no tribute.

The Runna keeps twenty-five armed followers. He has one son, named Bhim Singh, aged 12 years.

Genealogical Tree of the Panurwa family.

- | | |
|--|-----------------------------------|
| 1. Akshairaj, great grandson of Bhojraj Solanki (see Rupnagar). | 10. Runna Bhugwanji. |
| 2. Rajsingh. | 11. Jodhji Runna. |
| 3. Mahipal. | 12. Runna Raghunathsinghi. |
| 4. Harpal received the title of Ruana from Maharana Oodey Singh. | 13. Nathuji Runna. |
| 5. Runna Deeda. | 14. Ruana Guman Singh. |
| 6. " Punja. | 15. " Kirti Singh, brother of 14. |
| 7. " Ramji. | 16. " Keshri Singh. |
| 8. " Chundrabhan. | 17. " Oodey Singh. |
| 9. " Surujmal. | 18. " Pratap Singh. |
| | 19. " Bhawan Singh. |
| | 20. " Arjun Singh, present Runna. |

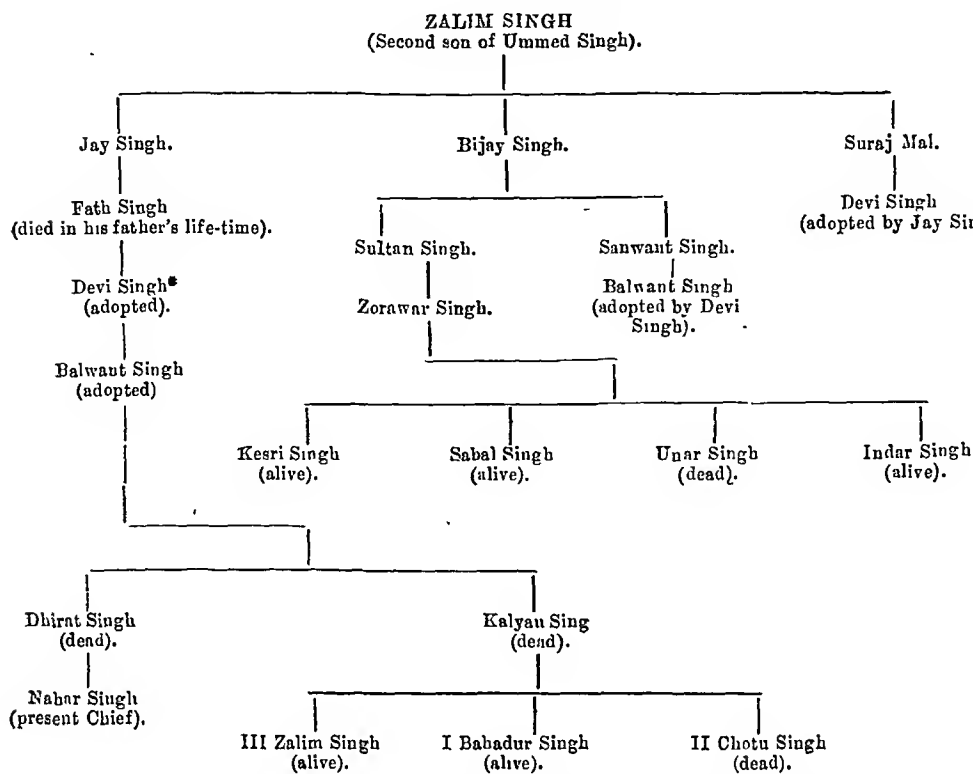
(Biographical sketches of the Chiefs of Mewar by C. K. M. Walter corrected up to date.)

SHAH PURA*—(See also page 24).

The founder of this Chiefship was Sujan Singh, son of Suraj Mal, the second son of Maharana Amar Singh of Udaipur, who received from the Emperor of Delhi in A.D. 1629 a grant in *jagir* of the Phulia *pargana* and the title of "Commauder of two thousand troops." Sujan Singh was succeeded in 1664 by his son Daulat Singh. In 1685 Daulat Singh was succeeded by his son Bharat Singh, who received from the Emperor the titles of Raja and of "Commauder of three thousand five hundred troops." He died in 1729 and was succeeded by his son Ummed Singh, who was killed at Ujain when fighting for Maharana Arsi of Udaipur against Madho Rao Sindia. Ummed Singh's grandson Ran Singh succeeded to the *gadi* in 1768, and received from the Maharana of Udaipur the *pargana* of Kachola as blood-money. His son Bhim Singh succeeded him in 1774, and was followed in 1796 by his son Amar Singh, who received from Udaipur the title of Raja Dhiraj. The *pargana* of Jehazpur and Anguncha, Kotri and other villages were resumed at the same time. In 1827 Amar Singh was succeeded by his son Madho Singh. The latter's son Jagat Singh, who had succeeded in 1845, received from the British Government in 1848 a *sanad* continuing to him the grant of the Phulia *pargana* and a *khilat*. Jagat Singh, who died in 1853, was succeeded by his adopted son, Lachman Singh, who received in 1862 a *sanad* guaranteeing to him the right of adoption. On his death in 1870 the present Chief, Raja Dhiraj Nabar Singh, came to the *gadi*.

* This account has been compiled by the Chiefship *ex parte* and contains much controversial matter which would be strenuously contested by the *jagirdars* if given a hearing.

Sur *h. c. i. b.*
Raja Dhiraj Nahar Singh, the Chief of Shahpura, is the son of Thakur Dhiraj Singh of Dhanop of the family of Umed Singh, as shown in the following table :—



The Chief, who is a Sesodia Rajput of the Ranawat sub-clan and an Arya Vaidik by religion, was recognized by the British Government in 1870 as successor to Raja Dhiraj Lachhman Singh, and received the usual *khilat* from Government as well as the customary presents of horses and elephants from Native States. In 1882 a Khari and Salt Treaty was concluded under which the Chief receives Rs. 5,000 from Government as compensation. He married first, on the 19th August 1870, the daughter of Ram Singh, a Jodha Rajput Thakur of Baghera, in Ajmer; second, on the 16th May 1874, the daughter of Chatur Sal, the Khichi Rajput Chief of Maksudangarh in Central India; third, on the 7th July 1889, the daughter of Hari Singh, brother to Man Singh, the Chief of Dharangdara in Kathiawar of the Jhala clan; and fourth, on the 4th March 1893, the sister of the Maharawal of Chhota Udaipur in Rewa Kanta. Of these four Ranis the first, second and third are dead. By the second the Chief has two sons, Umed Singh born in 1877, and Sardar Singh born in 1881, and one daughter. The Chief has no uncles or other near relations of the ruling family. His nearest relatives belong to his own family of Dhanop whose names are given in the pedigree. After these his nearest relations in succession are the descendants of Bharat Singh, Daulat Singh, and Sujan Singh. The Raja Dhiraj is related to the Chief of Udaipur, being descended from Maharana Amar Singh of Mewar, but otherwise has no clan or family relationship with other Chiefs in Rajputana. His mother by adoption is the daughter of Lachhman Singh, *Jagirdar* of Parsoli in Mewar, a Chauhan Rajput, and his own mother is the daughter of Thakur Megh Singh, *Jagirdar* of Kotri in Kishangarh, a Rahtor Rajput. The sisters of the late Chief were married to the late ruling chiefs of Jodhpur and Alwar and the Rao Rajas of Sikar and Uniara in Jaipur.

Only three nobles are recognized as such by the grant of the title of Omrao. Of these

Leading men.

the Thakur of Khamor, who holds the oldest and richest *jagir* in the Chiefship, claims to hold his *jagir* under a grant anterior to that of the Chiefship, but though this is admitted by the Chief, no documents concerning the original grant are in existence. The other two nobles are the *jagirdars* of Birdaul and Thahnal situated respectively in the Kachola and Phulia *parganas*.

There are also a number of smaller *Jagirdars*. Succession to all *jagir* estates is by primogeniture, suitable provision being made for younger sons. In the default of legitimate male issue succession is by adoption, subject to the approval of the Chief, but the right to succeed by adoption is limited to cousins distant by not more than four generations from the adopter. Persons who are of unsound mind or who have committed any act by which their claim is forfeited are excluded from the succession. These rules apply also to the Chiefship. Cousins to the third generation are looked on as brothers to the Chief, after which they sink to the rank of *jagirdars*. The service to be rendered by *jagirdars* has after much dispute been settled by

* On the death of Jay Singh, Bijay Singh assumed the succession without the permission of the Chief. He was deposed and went to Udaipur, Devi Singh being adopted into Jay Singh's family.

sanads granted in 1889, according to which the *jagirdars* are now required to furnish a certain number of horsemen for two months in each year at Shahpura, and to do such service as can properly be demanded of them. They are bound also to attend on the Chief with their followers at the Daschra, Holi and other festivals, and to accompany him and serve him as directed in accordance with ancient usage on all customary occasions both in and out of Shahpura. All periods of occasional service beyond the limits of the Chiefship exceeding twenty days are reckoned as equivalent to an equal period of the two months' fixed annual service abovementioned, but if such period of foreign service shall unavoidably exceed two months in any one year, no further deductions are to be made in subsequent years. The amount of tribute payable to the Chief is fixed in the case of the older *jagirs* by an assessment made in 1843 A.D., in that of the newer by *sanad*. They are also liable to "Neota" and "Barar," etc., when necessary.

There are five hereditary office-bearers of note, all of whom hold revenue-free villages for performing religious duties on the Chief's accession and at marriages and funerals, and for instructing the Chief and his sons in subjects of a scientific nature. Their ancestors came to the Chiefship in the time of Rajas Bharat Singh (1685), Ummed Singh (1729), and Bhim Singh (1774). There are also four hereditary officials whose ancestors came to the Chiefship in the time of Rajas Sujan Singh and Bharat Singh and received land in *jagir*, on condition of continuing to perform service to the Chiefship, failing which the grants are said to be liable to resumption. Of these all four receive monthly salaries, and two hold lands and receive in addition fixed dues for special occasions and duties. Their duties are to keep the accounts and records of the Chiefship, to prepare *kharitas* and *sanads*, and to act when required as *motamids* and *vakils*.

The only other leading men are the Mahant of Ramdwara, and Bakhtwar Singh, the latter of whom holds no office. Their ancestors came into the Chiefship in the time of Rajas Bharat Singh and Ran Singh respectively. The Mahant resides at Shahpura and has followers in various Native States, one of whom is, with the approval of the Chief and citizens of Shahpura, selected to succeed on the occurrence of a vacancy. Bakhtwar Singh holds lands and is in receipt of a monthly cash allowance.

(1) Of the three Umraos, Thakur Zorawar Singh of Khamor ranks highest, his title having been conferred by Raja Bharat Singh. The Thakur, who is a Rahtor Chandawat Rajput related to the *Jagirdar* of Belonda in Marwar, was born in 1855. He has two sons, Jaswant Singh and Karn Singh, and two brothers, Mor Singh and Dule Singh, of whom the former has two sons. The Khamor estate consists of a village of which the annual income is about Rs. 12,000 of which Rs. 1,101 are paid to the Chief as tribute.

(2) Thakur Nahar Singh of Birdaul, the second of the Umraos, is a Rajawat Rajput related to the Rajputs of Panwora in Jaipur. He holds one village in the Mewar portion of the Kachola pargana which yields about Rs. 5,000 a year, and pays to the Chief a tribute of Rs. 500. The Thakur, who was born in 1851, has three sons, Kalyan Singh, Kesri Singh, and Bhim Singh. He has also one uncle, Moda Singh.

(3) Thakur Udai Singh of Thahnal, the third Umrao, is a Sesodia Ranawat Rajput descended from Jagmalji, son of Rana Udai Singh of Mewar. He holds a village which yields about Rs. 8,000 a year and pays an annual tribute of about Rs. 500. He also renders certain fixed service. The Thakur, who recently succeeded his uncle, the late Thakur Jowahir Singh, is a minor, eight years of age. He has an uncle, named Ratn Singh. The present Thakur Udai Singh is the posthumous son of Thakur Bhabut Singh and was born after the late Thakur Jowahir Singh's succession to the estate.

CHAPTER IV.

CHAUHAN STATES.

[Bundi—Kota—Sirohi.]

The Chauhan tribe, which is represented in Rajputana by the Haras of Bundi and Kota and the Deoras of Sirohi, claims descent from a legendary hero named Anhil. Anhil's descendant, Bisaldeo, who lived about the beginning of the eleventh century and was the progenitor of the Chauhan kings of Delhi, became, through his grandson Ishtpal, the founder of the Hara family. About one hundred and fifty years after the time of Ishtpal, Sohi Rao, a near connection of the celebrated Raja Prithwi Raj of Delhi, established his capital at Nadol in Marwar, whence his tribe gradually overspread the territory which borders on Sirohi. The sixth in succession from Sohi Rao built the fort of Jalor in Marwar, and his grandson, Deoraj, became the ancestor of the ruling family of Sirohi, which took from him the name of Deora, by which it is now known.

BUNDI AND KOTA.

The Hara branch of the Chauhans has been settled for many centuries in the tract now occupied by Bundi and Kota, to which it has given the name of Haraoti. Regarding its earlier history, the following account is given in the *Gazetteer of Rajputana*:—"All that can be distinctly collected from the records is that the Haras went through the ordinary course of incessant fighting with rival clans for lands and dominions; that they drove out, or extirpated the non-Rajput tribes whom they found in possession (a massacre of the Minas in the fourteenth century is particularly mentioned, which cleared the country round Bundi itself); that they built strong places and gradually acquired predominance in the eastern districts, which they still hold. The Chiefs appear to have admitted the supremacy of the Sesodia Chiefs at Chitor, whenever the latter were strong enough to enforce it; and to have enlarged their horders at the expense or in defiance of the Sesodia Chief at Chitor whenever he was weakened by foreign invasions. Alau-d-din's sack of Chitor gave them an opportunity of this sort, the Hara country being protected by a range of hills and wilds from easy invasion out of the Mewar plains. There are numerous accounts of feuds and battles between Bundi and Chitor, two capitals distant about 60 miles; but the most dangerous enemy of the Haras in the fifteenth century was the powerful Muhammadan dynasty of Malwa. . . . We may conclude generally that the Eastern Chiefs of Mewar and Bundi were hard pressed by the Muhammadans from the open south-west country, until Rana Sanga restored the power of the Rajputs and retook from the Muhammadans their most important fortresses in this quarter; but this brief period of brilliant revival ended with the great defeat of the Rana at Fatehpur Sikri; and Bahadur Shah of Gujarat soon afterwards took Chitor, when Rao Arjun of Bundi with his Haras was slain in the storm. Sher Shah, the Afghan, also marched down into this country and again took Chitor; though, after his death, the Haras got possession of the great fort of Rantamhor on their eastern border, which had long been an Imperial outpost. This they held as feudatories of the Sesodia Chief; but when Akbar undertook the pacification of Rajputana, he induced Rai Surjan, the Hara Chief, to transfer his allegiance to the Emperor of Delhi, and the fortress yielded after a short siege. Rai Surjan and his sons entered the service of Akbar, receiving rank and pay. From this time forward ceased the supremacy of the Sesodias, and began the connection of the Haras of Bundi with the Mughal Emperors. Several of their Chiefs took service with the Emperors, obtained high rank at the Delhi Court, and received large grants of lands which were alternately resumed and restored as the Chief lost or gained favour, or took the wrong or right side in the dynastic struggles for the throne of Delhi. The bravery of the Hara Chiefs in the field is constantly recorded; they accompanied the Emperor upon distant expeditions and took leading parts in the political revolutions of the time. One of them fell fighting for Dara in the decisive battle near Agra (1658 A.D.), and of course his family became the object of Aurangzeb's revenge, who, however, pardoned the Haras after a vain attempt to ruin them. Another Chief had better luck in the battle for Aurangzeb's vacant throne, for he took the winning side of Bahadur Shah, while his kinsman of Kota was killed on the losing side, whereby the Bundi family secured predominance for the time. Soon after, however, a furious feud broke out between the Bundi Chief and the powerful Jay Singh of Amber (now Jaipur), when the Bundi Chief was driven out of his land and died in exile; while the Kota and Amher Chiefs annexed large portions of his territory. The successor appealed to Malhar Rao Holkar, who forced the Amher Raja to disgorge and replaced the Bundi Chief, keeping Patan as payment for his services. After this time the most important incident chronicled is the death of Rana Ursi of Udaipur, who was killed by the Rao of Bundi during a hunting party, whence arose a feud between the two great houses which is not yet forgotten. From the time of the appearance of the Mahrattas in these parts the Rajput States were constantly exposed to plundering excursions and heavy contributions with occasional loss of territory, and Bundi was among the greatest sufferers. In 1804 the Chief of Bundi assisted Colonel Mouson's expedition against Holkar through his country, and gave friendly aid when Monson was forced to retreat. From that time up to 1817, the Mahrattas and Pindaris constantly ravaged the State, exacting tribute and assuming supremacy. The territory of Bundi was so situated as to be of great importance in 1817 in cutting off the flight of the Pindaris. The Maharao, Bishan Singh, early accepted the British alliance, and a treaty was concluded with him on the 10th February 1818. Although his forces were inconsiderable, he co-operated heartily with the British Government. It was this connection with the British Government that raised Bundi from the lamentable condition to which it was reduced by the Mahrattas." Maharao Raja Bishan Singh was succeeded in 1821 by Maharao Raja Ram Singh, G.C.S.I., C.I.E., who died in 1888 after a reign of sixty-seven years. He was succeeded by Maharao Raja Raghubir Singh, the present Chief, who was created a K.C.S.I. in 1897 and G.C.I.E. in 1901.

The Kota State, which formerly formed an integral part of Bundi, was bestowed in 1579 by the Emperor Jahangir upon Madho Singh, the second son of Rao Ratn of Bundi. Of Rao Madho Singh's six successors, three were killed fighting for the Delhi Emperors, and a fourth perished fighting for Prince Azim against Prince Muazzam in the war of the succession. Ummed Singh I succeeded to the *gadi* in 1771 and co-operated with Colonel Monson against Holkar, aiding with supplies and men. Through the instrumentality of his able Minister, Raj Rana Zalim Singh (see Chapter VII), he was the first Rajput Chief to conclude a treaty with the British Government. This took place in 1817. He died in November 1819, and was succeeded by Kishor Singh II as titular Chief. The administration was vested by a supplementary article to the treaty of 1817 in Zalim Singh and his heirs. On Kishor Singh II's

death in 1828, his nephew Ram Singh came to the *gadi*, the administration being vested in Madho Singh, son of Zalim Singh. Disputes arose between the nominal and actual ruler in 1834, and on the 18th April 1838, with the consent of the Kota Chief, seventeen *parganas*, yielding a reveue of twelve lakhs of rupees, were made over to Madan Singh and his heirs as a separate provision for the descendants of Zalim Singh. These districts now form the Jhalawar State. In 1857 the Kota troops and the Kota Contingent mutinied, murdering Captain Burton, the Political Agent, and his two sons. The Maharao made no attempt to offer assistance to the Political Agent, and as a mark of the displeasure of the British Government his salute was reduced from seventeen to thirteen guns. Maharao Ram Singh, who died in 1866, was succeeded by his son Bhim Singh, who on his accession took the name of Chatar Sal II. In recognizing his succession, the British Government restored to him the full salute of seventeen guns. This Chief's incapacity having led to misrule and oppression, the administration of the State was at his request taken over by the British Government in 1874 and placed in the hands of the Political Agent and a Council of Regency. Maharao Chatar Sal II died on the 11th June 1889, and was succeeded by his adopted son Udai Singh, the present Chief, who assumed the name of Ummed Singh.

SIROHI.

During the reigns which followed that of Deoraj, the Chauhanas were engaged in constant struggles with the Pramars or Pnars who held Sirohi, and eventually vanquished them. Sirohi itself was founded in 1425 by Rao Sains Mal. Little more is known of the history of the country till the latter portion of the eighteenth century, when Rao Udai Bhan, the then Chief, was engaged in frequent struggles with Jodhpur. Rao Udai Bhan was deposed in 1816 in favour of his younger brother Rao Sheo Singh, who ruled first as Regent and subsequently as Chief. The first relations between Sirohi and the British Government took place in 1817, Sheo Singh having asked assistance in consequence of an invasion from Jodhpur, which had for its object the reinstatement of Rao Udai Bhan. In 1823 a treaty was made, whereby the Rao accepted British supremacy and bound himself to govern by the advice of the British Agent, to introduce an efficient administration, and to pay a tribute not exceeding three-eighths of his revenue, receiving in return a guarantee of protection. In 1843 a further treaty was made, whereby land at Ahu was ceded for the establishment of a sanitarium. In 1854 the Rao, at his urgent request, received from the British Government a loan of two lakhs of rupees, and the direct management of the State was transferred to the Government for a period of eight years which, in accordance with the terms of the agreement, was subsequently extended to eleven years. During this time many improvements were effected, though as little interference as possible was exercised in internal affairs. In 1861, in consequence of the incapacity of the Rao, the management of the State was made over to his eldest surviving son, Ummed Singh, who, on his father's death in the following year, succeeded to the *gadi*. Rao Sheo Singh did good service in the Mutiny, in consideration of which the tribute of Rs. 15,000 payable by him was reduced by one-half. On the removal of Sheo Singh from all active share in the administration, his four younger sons, Hamir Singh, Jet Singh, Jawani Singh, and Jamat Singh, declined the provision made for them, and went into rebellion. On the death, however, of their father in December 1862 they submitted, and received villages for maintenance. Rao Ummed Singh received full powers in 1865, but, though well meaning, proved a weak and unsuccessful ruler. During his time Sirohi was harassed by famine, by a struggle with the outlawed Thakur Natlu Singh of Bhatana, and by frequent incursions of Bhils from Marwar. These events led to the transfer of the political control of the State from an Assistant to the Agent to the Governor-General to the Commandant of the Eriapura Irregular Force. "The measures adopted by the Political Superintendent for the extermination of brigandage on the Sirohi, Mewar, and Marwar frontier were eminently successful, and the few outlaws who had not been captured were induced to forsake their occupation by the offer of land on which they might settle down to habits of industrial life."—(*Aitchison's Treaties, Vol. III, page 237.*)

Rao Ummed Singh died in September 1875, leaving one son, the present Chief, Rao Kesri Singh.

BUNDI.

His Highness Maharao Raja Raghubir Singh, G.C.I.E., K.C.S.I., is the eldest son of the late Maharao Raja Ram Singh, G.C.S.I.,

The Chief.

C.I.E., and was born on the 21st September 1869.

His Highness succeeded his father in 1889, and was vested with full powers on 9th January 1890. The Chief has been married four times, twice to aunts of the Maharaja of Jodhpur, by the former of which ladies he had one son, Raghu Indar Singh, a third time to a daughter of the Raja of Jhahua in Central India, and fourthly, to the daughter of Maharaj Kishore Singh of Jodhpur. All the Maharanis are of the Rahtor Rajput clan. The heir-apparent died on the 5th March 1899. His Highness has two real brothers, Raugraj Singh and Raghuraj Singh, and is closely connected with the families of the *jagirdars* of Dugari and Kapren. He is also connected with the Shaikhawat family of Jhunjhnu in Jaipur and the Parihar family of Nagod. The late Chief took two wives from the latter family, one of whom is the mother of the present Maharao Raja. As noticed above, the Kota ruling family is an offshoot from that of Bundi, from which it was separated during the reign of Rao Raja Ratn Singh (1607-14).

According to the account * supplied by the Bundi Darbar, "The nobles and *jagirdars* of the Bundi State are not hereditary. They are in receipt of cash allowances and have been granted *jagirs* in lieu of service performed by them. The granting of *jagirs* to persons deserving of the same or resuming them in consequence of any fault depends entirely on the will and pleasure of the Chief. There are altogether twenty-three nobles, of whom seventeen, being Hara Chauhans, sit in Darbar on the right of the Chief. The remaining six sit on the left. Of these, six are Rajputs, one is a Rahtor, three are Solankhyas, one is a Parihar, and one a Shaikhawat (Kachhwaha)." Succession is by primogeniture and is subject to the sanction of the Darbar. Adoption is not permitted.

The following nobles deserve individual notice:—

(1) Maharaj Rangraj Singh of Bamangaon, the elder of the Chief's brothers, was born in 1871; knows Sanskrit and Hindi. He occupies no-official position and has no son. The *jagir*, which is valued at Rs. 20,000 a year and is well managed, was conferred on the Maharaj in 1884. It pays no tribute, but renders service to the Darbar.

(2) Maharaj Raghuraj Singh of Bansi, the younger of the Chief's brothers, was born in 1875, and, like the elder, is acquainted with Sanskrit and Hindi. He has one son, Ishwari Singh, born on 8th March 1893. The *jagir*, which was conferred in 1884, is of the same value and is held on the same terms as that of Bamangaon.

(3) Maharaj Sheo Sam Singh of Dugari, a descendant of the younger son of Maharaja Umed Singh (1748-70), holds an estate of the annual value of Rs. 20,000. The *Jagirdar* was born in 1884. He knows Hindi only. The estate, which was conferred on the present holder's father in Sambat 1933, had previously been administered by the Darbar owing to mismanagement, and is still in debt. It is liable for service, but pays no tribute.

(4) Maharaj Arjun Singh of Gudha, born in 1831, is a natural son of the late Chief. He knows Sanskrit and Hindi. He has one son, Ranbir Singh, born in 1882. The *jagir* of Gudha, which was conferred in Sambat 1943 (1856 A.D.), is valued at Rs. 10,000 a year and is in debt. It is liable for service, but pays no tribute.

(5) Maharaj Gordhan Singh of Nimana, born in 1835, is also a natural son of the late Chief. He is acquainted with Sanskrit.

(6) Maharaj Jagannath Singh of Matonda, is the third and youngest of the late Chief's illegitimate sons. He was born in 1850, and knows Hindi. This estate, like that of Nimana, is of the same value as the *jagir* of Gudha. The former was conferred in Sambat 1913 and the latter in Sambat 1945. Both estates are liable for service, but neither pays tribute. Maharaj Jagannath Singh has two sons, Harnath Singh, born in 1872, and Raudhir Singh.

(7) Maharaj Jaswant Singh of Khera Raidhar is a descendant of Rao Raja Gopinath (1614-31) through his third son, Bairi Sal. He was born in 1883. The *jagir*, which was granted in Sambat 1815 (1759 A.D.), yields an annual income of Rs. 10,550 and pays Rs. 540 as tribute to the Raj. It is also liable to render service with twenty-five horsemen.

(8) Maharaj Hanwant Singh of Maghlana is also descended from Rao Raja Gopinath through the latter's son Mohkam Singh. The estate, which was granted in Sambat 1880 (1824 A.D.), yields an annual income of Rs. 5,251-6-0, pays Rs. 255-2-9 as tribute to the Raj and supplies six horsemen for service. The Maharaj succeeded to the late *Jagirdar*, Balwant Singh, by adoption. He was born in 1836. He is a member of the Council of the State and holds the office of *Kiladar* (Castellan) of Nainwa. He has one son, Kalyan Singh, born in 1868.

(9) Thakur Indur Sal of Pagara, a Solankhya Rajput, holds an estate of the annual value of Rs. 3,801, which was granted in Sambat 1815 (1759 A.D.). It is liable to a payment of Rs. 172 as tribute, and to service with nine horses. The Thakur, who was born in 1833, knows Sanskrit and Hindi, has three sons, Samar Sal, Ari Sal and Sangram Singh.

(10) Maharaj Mor Singh of Dhoora, a Hara Rajput, descended from Rao Raja Gopinath, holds an estate of the annual value of Rs. 8,999-15. The estate, which was granted in Sambat 1804 (1748 A.D.), is bound to supply twenty-two horsemen for the service of the Darbar, and pays Rs. 974-6-9 as tribute. It is in debt. The Maharaj was born in 1861. He has a son born in 1894. He succeeded the late *Jagirdar*, Balwant Singh, by adoption. The *jagir* is under the management of the State owing to its being heavily involved in debt.

(11) Thakur Shambhu Prasad Singh of Lilera, a Parihar Rajput, holds an estate of the annual value of Rs. 2,285-6, which was conferred upon his father in Sambat 1927 (1871 A.D.). He renders personal service and pays no tribute. He was born in 1887.

* This account represents the view of the Darbar and would probably not be accepted by the nobles and *jagirdars* as accurately representing their position.

(12) Rawat Lal Singh of Datonda, a Solankhya Rajput, holds a *jagir* of the annual value of Rs. 1,250 which was conferred in Sambat 1880 (1824 A.D.). The *jagirdar* performs service with three horses and pays no tribute. The Rawat has one son, Mukuud Singh, born in 1866.

(13) Maharaj Nand Singh of Jalodi, a descendant of Rao Raja Gopinath through his second son Indar Sal, holds a *jagir* of the annual value of Rs. 1,500, which was conferred on his ancestor in Sambat 1888 (1832 A.D.). The Maharaj, who succeeded by adoption, is a Member of the Council and the Chief Military Officer of the State, and receives a cash allowance of Rs. 829-11-0 yearly. He knows Hindi and Urdu. As he performs personal service, he pays no tribute. The Maharaj has two sons, of whom the elder is Ranjit Singh, born in 1875.

(14) Maharaj Harnath Singh of Jitgarh is another descendant of Rao Raja Gopinath through his son Mohan Singh. The village of Jitgarh, which was conferred in Sambat 1898 (1842 A.D.), yields an annual revenue of Rs. 3,300, renders service with six *sowars* and pays a tribute of Rs. 650. He was born in 1873.

(15) Thakur Bir Singh, ex-Jagirdar of Kapren, having rebelled against the State, his *jagir* was confiscated in 1888. He is given Rs. 250 a month as subsistence allowance.

KOTA.

His Highness Maharao Sir Ummed Singh Bahadur, K.C.S.I., the present Chief, was born on the 15th September 1873, and succeeded to the *gadi* by adoption on the 11th June 1889, on the death of the late Maharao Chatar Sal. His Highness, whose name till his accession was Ude Singh, is by birth the second son of Maharaja Chhagan Singh of Kota. Maharao Ummed Singh was educated at the Mayo College and vested with full ruling powers in his State on the 5th December 1896. His Highness was married on the 21st November 1892 to the eldest daughter of His Highness the Maharana of Udaipur. The Maharani died on the 20th August 1895 after giving birth to a daughter, who survived only ten months. His Highness again married on 17th April 1897 the daughter of His Highness the Rao of Cutch. The Maharao's nearest relatives are his father Maharaja Chhagan Singh, his elder brother Maharaja Jay Singh of Bamulia and his uncle Maharaja Dhiraj Singh of Amla. Other relatives are Maharaja Chatur Bhuj Singh of Kherli, and Maharajas Durjan Sal and Madho Singh of Mundli. Next in relationship to the Kishor Singhot family, to which the Maharao belongs, is the Mohan Singhot family, of which the head is Apji Amar Singh of Palaittha.

The Tazimi Jagirdars of Kota are thirty-six in number, of whom the majority belong to the Hara division of the Chauban clan. Of the *jagirs* eight—Indargarh, Balwan, Khatoli, Gainta, Karwar, Pipalda, Phasud, and Antarda—are held in suzerainty by the Kota State, subject to the payment to Jaipur of an annual tribute of Rs. 14,396-13-0. These fiefs, known as *Kotris*, were originally assigned by and subject to Bundi, to which State also belonged the fortress of Rantambhor. When Rantambhor was made over to the Emperor of Delhi, he exacted annual payments from the holders of the fiefs for the protection afforded to them by the fort. In 1760 Rantambhor was made over in trust to Jaipur, and that State claimed a continuance of the payments. In 1823, Raj Rana Zalim Singh, the Prime Minister of Kota, arranged with the British Government for transfer of the *kotris*' allegiance to Kota. The position of these sub-Chiefships is therefore peculiar. No succession or adoption can take place without the consent of the Maharao, and, except in the cases of Indargarh and Khatoli, *nazarana* or a *fee* on succession is levied.

Individuals of distinction.

The following nobles call for individual notice:—

(1) Maharaja Sher Singh of Indargarh, a Hara Rajput, descended from Indar Sal, a son of Kunwar Gopinath of Bundi, holds an estate consisting of ninety-two villages with a population of 26,208 persons, which yields an annual revenue of about Rs. 1,50,000 and pays a tribute of Rs. 17,506-12-0 to the Kota Darbar, of which Rs. 6,969 are paid by the latter to Jaipur. Indargarh, which is situated about 45 miles to the north of Kota, was founded by Indar Sal, the ancestor of the present holder. The Maharaja was born in 1873, and was educated at the Mayo College. He is by birth a son of Maharaja Durjan Sal of Chahpol, and succeeded to Indargarh by adoption in November 1879. His nearest relatives are his father the Maharaja of Chahpol and his two younger brothers. He is married to a daughter of the Rawat of Bhainsfargarh in Mewar.

(2) Maharaja Gagan Sal of Balwan, another descendant of Kunwar Gopinath of Bundi, through the latter's son Bairi Sal, holds an estate of twenty villages to the north-east of Kota which yield a revenue of Rs. 8,000 and pay a tribute to the Kota Darbar of Rs. 1,728-6-0, of which Rs. 1,128-6-0 are paid by Kota to Jaipur. The estate being heavily in debt was taken

under management by the Darbar in 1898. The Maharaja, who was born in 1847, succeeded his uncle Maharaja Gopal Singh in July 1881. He has a son named Kunwar Beri Sal, and a cousin, Thakur Madho Singh, the son of Gobind Singh, the youngest brother of the late *jagirdar*.

(3) **Maharaja Balwant Singh of Khatoli** holds an estate of thirty villages, 50 miles to the north-east of Kota. The ancestor of the house was Amar Singh, second son of Maharaja Gaj Singh of Indargarh, who served with distinction under Maharao Raja Budh Singh of Bundi (1671-95) in one of Aurangzeb's campaigns in the Dakhan. Amar Singh in 1673 captured Khatoli, the seat of the family, on the left bank of the Parhati river, from Daulat Khan. The estate comprises, besides the villages on the left bank of the river, seven villages on the right bank in Gwalior territory, which were acquired in 1750 from the Raja of Sheopur whose possessions have now passed into the hands of Maharaja Sindia. But these villages were confiscated by the Gwalior Darbar in 1898, and given to Ranawatji, the widow of the late Chief, Bhopal Singh of Khatoli. The estate, of which the revenue is valued at Rs. 50,000, pays Rs. 7,632-8-0 as tribute to Kota, of which Rs. 3,932-8-0 are payable by the Darbar to Jaipur. The estate, though well managed, is in debt. The present Maharaja, who was born in 1858, succeeded his uncle Maharaja Partah Singh in 1900. He has two sons, Aparwal Singh and Shankar Singh, born in 1882 and 1887, respectively.

The estates of Karwar, Gainta, Phasud, and Pipalda are known as the **Hardawat Kotris**, from the fact that the *pargana* of Phasud, of which they form sub-divisions, was bestowed by the Emperor Shah Jahan in 1649 upon Khushhal Singh, a descendant of Harde Narain, the second son of Rao Raja Bhoj (1588-1607) of Bundi. Khushhal Singh divided the fief into four equal portions between himself (Karwar) and his cousins Amar Singh (Gainta), Jagat Singh (Phasud), and Daulat Singh (Pipalda). The town of Pipalda was retained as the common undivided property of the cousins and remains so to this day—a cause of perpetual quarrels.

(4) **Maharaja Madho Singh of Gainta** holds, besides the seven villages which form his ancestral inheritance, eight villages granted to him in *jagir* by the Kota Darbar. The estate, which is situated 40 miles to the north-east of Kota on the right bank of the Chambal, yields an annual rental of Rs. 32,000. It pays Rs. 1,908-4-6 as tribute to Kota, of which Rs. 193-9-0 are payable by the Darbar to Jaipur. It also supplies nine *sowars* for the service of the Raj. For some years the estate has been considerably in debt. The Maharaja, who is by birth the son of Thakur Bairi Sal, a junior member of the family, was born in 1870, and was educated at the Mayo College. He succeeded the late Maharaja Indar Sal by adoption in 1881. He has one son named Akhey Raj, born in 1892. Of the Maharaja's ancestors, Nathji, the third in descent from Amar Singh, distinguished himself in the victory gained at Bhatwara in 1761 by Kota over Jaipur. Nathji's son, Sheodan Singh, was one of the Kota representatives who helped to negotiate the treaty with the British Government in 1817. He was rewarded by Government for his services by the gift of an elephant, a horse, a robe of honour, and a sword, of which the two latter are still kept as heirlooms in the family.

(5) **Thakur Sardul Singh of Karwar** holds a small estate of seven villages to the north-east of Kota which yields an annual income of Rs. 12,500 and pays Rs. 1,002-14-0 as tribute, of which Rs. 331-14-0 go to Jaipur. The estate is fairly managed, but in debt. The Thakur, who was born in 1874, succeeded his father Thakur Subhag Singh in 1898. He has two brothers, Kesar Singh and Durga Das, born in 1877 and 1880, respectively. He has also an uncle, Thakur Bhur Singh.

(6) **Thakur Jai Singh of Phasud** holds an estate of six villages, 40 miles to the east of Kota, yielding a revenue of Rs. 10,000 and paying Rs. 1,002 as tribute to the Darbar, of which Rs. 332 are paid to Jaipur. The estate is in debt, and is under management by the Darbar. The present Thakur was born on 5th December 1891, and succeeded his father Bakhtawar Singh on the 11th October 1894. His nearest relatives are his younger brother and two uncles, Achal Singh and Baldeo Singh.

(7) **Thakur Lal Singh of Pipalda** holds an estate, 40 miles east of Kota, consisting of eleven villages and yielding an annual revenue of Rs. 16,000. It pays Rs. 1,006-1-6 as tribute, of which Rs. 331-12-3 is paid to Jaipur. The estate is in debt and under management by the Darbar. The Thakur, was born in 1898, and succeeded his father Thakur Guman Singh in 1900. He has one uncle, Dehi Singh.

(8) **Maharaja Devi Singh of Antarda** holds the town of Antarda with six dependent villages, 32 miles to the north-east of Kota. The estate, which is well managed, yields an annual revenue of Rs. 13,000. Of the tribute of Rs. 3,828-6-0 payable to Kota, Rs. 1,128-6-0 are paid to Jaipur. Maharaja Devi Singh, who succeeded his father Maharaja Sheodan Singh in 1871, was born in 1862. He has three sons, Sangram Singh (born 1888), Ajit Singh (born 1892) and Indar Singh (born 1899), and a half-brother, Prithwi Singh. His nearest relatives are the descendants of his ancestors Sangram Singh and Devi Singh.

(9) **Maharaja Ranjit Singh of Nimola**, a Hara Rajput of the Indarsalot sub-clan, is descended from the Indargarh family, to the head of which the estate is subordinate and pays a tribute of Rs. 871-14-0 (Madhnपुरi currency). The Maharaja himself is, by favour of the Kota Chief, considered independent of Indargarh and holds the rank of a fourth grade Kota Sardar. The estate, which is well managed and free from debt, consists of one village on the right bank of the Chambal, 50 miles north-east of Kota. The annual revenue is Rs. 12,000, but lands yielding Rs. 1,000 are allotted to relatives. The present Maharaja, who was born in 1874, succeeded his adoptive father Maharaja Moti Singh in 1900.

Besides the eight Kotris and Nimola, there are twenty-eight Tazami Jagirdars in Kota, of whom seventeen only call for individual notice.

* (1) **Apji Gobind Singh of Koela** is a Hara Rajput, descended in the tenth generation from Kani Ram, the fourth son of Rao Madho Singh, the first Chief of Kota. The Apji, who claims the first seat on the right in Darbar, holds an estate of eight villages on the Parbati river, 40 miles east of Kota, yielding an annual rental of Rs. 27,000. The estate, which owing to former bad management was heavily in debt, is now free from debt under the care of Raj Bijay Singh of Kunari. It furnishes ninety *sipahis* to the police of the State, and pays Rs. 2,394-3-0 annually to the Darbar. The present *Jagirdar* was born in 1887 and is the only son of the late Apji Prithwi Singh. One of his ancestors, Apji Amar Singh, distinguished himself in 1804 at the battle of Garot, where he was wounded while fighting on the side of Colonel Monson. The Apji's nearest relative is Lachman Singh, the grandson of Apji Sangram Singh. Apji Gobind Singh is being educated at the Mayo College, Ajmer.

* (2) **Rao Bahadur Apji Amar Singh of Palaitha**, who, along with Apji of Koela, claims the first seat on the right in Darbar, is a descendant of Mohan Singh, second son of Rao Madho Singh, the first Chief of Kota, who was killed in 1658 at Fathahad near Ujjain while fighting under Rao Ram Singh for the Emperor Shah Jahan against the latter's son Aurangzeb. Another ancestor of Apji Amar Singh of the same name as himself was killed in 1804 at Garot in Indore while fighting under Colonel Monson against Holkar. The estate at first consisted of Palaitha founded by Mohan Singh and two dependant villages yielding an annual rental of Rs. 12,000. It is situated on the right bank of the Kali Sind river, 26 miles to the east of Kota. It furnishes twelve *sowars*, and 15 *sipahis* and pays Rs. 164-2-6 annually to the Darbar. It is well managed and free from debt. The present Apji Amar Singh succeeded Apji Fateh Singh in 1858 by adoption; he was the son of Apji Agar Singh of Nagda, a junior branch of the Palaitha family. He was born in 1852 and was a member of the State Council of Regency from 1877 to 1897. During this time he obtained a *jagir* of Rs. 5,000 in the name of his first son Pratap Singh to serve with 11 *sowars*. His second son Onkar Singh was given a further *jagir* of Rs. 2,000 to furnish 12 *sowars* to the State Army. On the death of Pratap Singh his *jagir* also devolved on Onkar Singh. The *jagir* is situated in the Nizamut of Saugod. Kunwar Unkar Singh was born in 1872 and was educated at the Mayo College. He holds the appointment of General Superintendent of Police in the State. The families most closely related to Palaitha are those of Nagda, Dabri, and Rajgarh.

(3) **Raj Bijay Singh of Kunari**, a Rajput of the Jhala clan, Jaitawat sub-clan, holds an estate consisting of Kunari, situated on the left bank of the Chambal opposite the city of Kota, and eight dependent villages. The estate, which is well managed, yields an annual income of Rs. 25,000 and pays Rs. 2,300 to the Darbar. Raj Bijay Singh, by birth the second son of Raj Fateh Singh of Dilwara in Mewar, was born in 1868 and was educated at the Mayo College. He succeeded by adoption to Kunari in 1888 on the death of Raj Rup Singh. The Kunari estate was bestowed in 1644 by Rao Mukund Singh, second Chief of Kota, upon Arjun Singh, the third son of Jeit Singh of Dilwara. Raj Bijay Singh has five sons, the eldest Chandar Sen born in 1889. His next nearest relative is his hother Raj Zalim Singh of Dilwara.

(4) **Maharaja Jay Singh of Bamulia** is a Rajput of the Hara clan, descended from Maharao Kishor Singh, fifth Chief of Kota. He holds an estate consisting of five villages yielding an annual rental of Rs. 11,000, situated 30 miles to the east of Kota. A *jagir* of Rs. 10,000 was further granted to Maharaja Jay Singh in January 1897 after his accession to full power. The estate, which pays Rs. 264 to the Darbar, was founded by Suraj Mal, the great-grandson of Maharao Kishor Singh. Maharaja Jay Singh succeeded Narsingh Singh, the late Maharaja, by adoption in June 1888, is by birth the eldest son of Maharaja Chhagan Singh of Kotra and elder brother of His Highness the Maharaja of Kota. He was born in 1871 and was educated at the Mayo College. The Maharaja is married to a daughter of Jaganath Singh, a Jadon Rajput of Karauli, and has a son born in 1893.

(5) **Pandit Ganpat Rao of Sarola**, a Dakhan Brahman of the Sarsut clan, Shenwai sub-clan, occupies in Darbar the second seat on the left of the Maharao and holds the township of

* Owing to the dispute for precedence the Apjis of Koela and Palaitha do not attend Darbars together.

Sarola and seven dependent villages, 50 miles to the south-east of Kota. The estate, which yields an annual revenue of Rs. 27,000, is held service-free, is very well managed, and is reputed to be the richest and most productive in Kota. Pandit Ganpat Rao, born in 1860 and fairly educated, is by birth the son of Pandit Sadasiv Rao and nephew to the late *Jagirdar* Pandit Moti Lal, who was for fourteen years a member of the Kota State Council. Balaji Pandit, the founder of the fortunes of the family, was originally in the service of Baji Rao, one of the Peshwa's Generals, under whom the Mahrattas invaded Upper India in 1739. Passing through Kota territory, Baji Rao nominated Balaji to negotiate with the Bundi and Kota Darbars for the payment of *Chauth*, and later on appointed him to collect this tax in his name from Bundi, Kota, and Mewar. The Pandit selected Kota as his head-quarters and started a banking firm on his own account. Lalaji Pandit, the son and successor of Balaji, while continuing to discharge his father's duties, contracted a friendship with Raj Rana Zalim Singh and afforded valuable assistance to the Regent when Kota was threatened by Holkar in 1766. For his successful conduct of the negotiations, which led to the withdrawal of the Mahratta troops, Lalaji was substantially rewarded by Maharao Ummed Singh. On the completion of the treaty of 1817, by which the Mahratta tribute became payable to the British Government, Lalaji's office of *Chauth*-collector came to an end, and he settled down as a Kota subject. During his life-time, the Kota Darbar became indebted to him to the extent of Rs. 9,27,364, and in 1771 the Sarola estate was hypothecated to him as security for repayment.

Pandit Ganpat Rao succeeded Pandit Moti Lal in March 1892 as co-heir with a hoy named Purshottam born in 1882, who was adopted by Moti Lal on his death-bed. No division of property has yet been made. Pandit Ganpat Rao has one son, born in August 1899, and his nearest relatives are Pandit Mangesh Rao in Kotah and Pandit Gobind Mahadeo in Konkan.

(6) Thakur Moti Singh of Kachnaoda, a Hara Rajput, descended from Rao Surjan

Kachnaoda.

Singh of Bundi through the latter's third son, Rai Mal, holds a service-free *jagir* consisting of

Kachnaoda and two dependent villages situated on the left bank of the Kali Sind river, 21 miles east of Kota. The estate, which yields an annual rental of Rs. 7,377, is considerably in debt. Rai Mal, the founder of the family, obtained the town and dependency of Palaitha from the Emperor Akbar in recognition of his services in the Dakhan and Gondwana. His grandson, Hari Singh, was ejected from Palaitha. Daulat Singh, son of Hari Singh, received the estate of Sarthal from Maharao Bhim Singh. In 1838, when the partition of Kota took place, Sarthal was included in Jhalawar and Kachnaoda was bestowed instead of it on the then holder, Thakur Nripat Singh, who was succeeded in 1876 by the present *Jagirdar*. Thakur Moti Singh was born in 1863, and has a son Raghunath Singh born in 1893, after whom his nearest relatives are Thakurs Raghunath Singh and Devi Sal.

(7) Apji Madho Singh of Rajgarh, a Hara Rajput, is descended from Mohan Singh,

Rajgarh.

second son of Rao Madho Singh of Kota. Mohan Singh's eighth son, Gordhan Singh, obtained

Rajgarh from Rao Kishor Singh and was afterwards killed in one of the Emperor Aurengzeb's wars in the Dakhan. His son, Daulat Singh, was killed in 1720, fighting under Maharao Bhim Singh of Kota against the Nizam of Hyderabad. Nath Singh, the grandson of Daulat Singh, was killed in 1761 at Bhatwara, fighting for Kota against Jaipur. His grandson, Deo Singh, the great-grandfather of Apji Madho Singh, actively assisted Maharao Kishor Singh in 1821 in trying to depose the Regent, Raj Rana Zalim Singh, and was severely wounded at Mangrol. The estate of Rajgarh is held service-free, and consists of one village, 26 miles east of Kota, which yields Rs. 4,000 a year. Apji Madho Singh was born in 1873 and succeeded to the *jagir* on the 19th January 1893 on the death of his uncle Apji Kishen Singh who was a member of the State Council since its formation in 1877 up to the time of his death. He has two brothers, Bairi Sal, and Chotaji. The most nearly connected families are those of Palaitha, Debri, and Nagda.

(8) Rawat Chater Sal of Ghati, a Hara Rajput of the Mewawat sub-clan, holds an

Ghati.

estate consisting of Ghati and three dependent villages, 38 miles to the south of Kota, which

yield Rs. 2,500 a year. The Rawat is descended from Bir Singh, Chief of Bundi, through the great-grandson of the latter, Meo Singh. One of Meo Singh's descendants, Zorawar Singh, took service in Kota and was killed in 1736 fighting under Maharao Bhim Singh. His son Khushhal Singh received a *jagir* which was resumed in 1758 owing to the murder of the Kota Minister by Ajit Singh, the then holder of the estate, who saved his life by fleeing to Udaipur. Ajit Singh's grandson Guman Singh returned to Kota, and in acknowledgment of his services at the battle of Bhatwara received the *jagir* of Ghati. Guman Singh was an ancestor of the present Rawat. Chatar Sal, who was born in 1852, succeeded his father Zorawar Singh in 1864. He has one son, Durjan Sal, born in 1872, and a brother, Girwar Singh. The latter has three sons—Lachhman Singh, Nathu Singh, and Zorawar Singh.

(9) Thakur Bhim Singh of Kherli is a Tanwar Rajput of the Jarola sub-clan, who

Kherli.

holds an estate consisting of one village of the annual value of Rs. 3,000, which pays Rs. 15 as

tribute, to Kota. Thakur Bhim Singh, who was born in 1867, succeeded his father Thakur Khushhal Singh in 1870. He has one son, Ude Singh, the next nearest relations being Thakur Bajrang Singh of Srinai and Thakurs Chater Singh and Devi Singh.

(10) **Thakur Bajrang Singh of Srinal**, who is descended from Pratab Singh, the founder of the Kherli family, holds a *jagir* consisting of one village of the annual value of Rs. 1,100, situated 38 miles east of Kota. **Thakur Bajrang Singh**, who was born in 1857, succeeded his father **Thakur Fath Singh** in 1868. He has one son, **Jawahir Singh**, and a brother, **Chatar Singh**. His next nearest relative is **Thakur Bhim Singh** of Kherli.

(11) **Apji Karn Singh of Dabri** is a Hara Rajput, descended from Rao Madho Singh, the first Chief of Kota, through the latter's second son, **Mohan Singh**, who obtained Palaitha. The Dabri estate consists of one village, 30 miles to the east of Kota, which produces an annual income of Rs. 3,000. **Apji Karn Singh**, who was born in 1852, succeeded by adoption in 1864 to **Apji Gordhan Singh**. He belongs by birth to a junior branch of the Dabri family. The **Apji** has a son, after whom his nearest relatives are **Apji Dhool Singh**, **Mor Singh**, and **Narain Singh**.

(12) **Maharaja Chaturbhuj Singh of Kherli** is a Hara Rajput, descended from Rao Kishor Singh of Kota. The Kherli branch of the Kishor Singhot family is immediately senior to the Mundli branch, to which the ruling Chief belongs. **Bakht Singh**, the founder of Kherli, and **Chain Singh**, the ancestor of the Maharao, being respectively the fourth and fifth sons of **Pritivi Singh** who was the third son of **Maharao Kishor Singh**, the fifth Chief. The estate consists of one village, yielding an annual rental of Rs. 1,500, situated on the left bank of the Kali Sind river, 21 miles north-east of Kota. **Maharaja Chaturbhuj Singh**, who was born in 1863, succeeded his father **Maharaja Durjan Sal** in 1878. He has one son, **Beri Sal**, born in 1889, and two cousins, **Mor Singh** and **Arjun Sal**. The **Bamulia**, **Kotra**, and **Mundli** families are those most closely connected with Kherli.

(13) **Maharaja Durjan Sal of Mundli**, a Hara Rajput, is descended from **Chain Singh**, an ancestor of His Highness the Maharao, who was the fifth son of **Prithwi Singh**, the third son of **Rao Kishor Singh**. The *jagir* consists of 700 bighas of land yielding a rental of Rs. 700 a year. **Maharaja Durjan Sal** was born in 1844, and succeeded his father **Maharaja Sher Singh** in 1889. He has three sons, **Lachhman Singh**, **Narsingh Singh**, and **Ranjit Singh**, and two brothers, **Arjun Singh** and **Devi Singh**.

(14) **Thakur Sheodan Singh of Sarthal**, a Rahtor Rajput of the Champawat sub-clan, formerly held the largest estate in Jhalawar, but on the restoration of Jhalawar territories to Kota in 1899, he became a *Jagirdar* of Kota. His great-grandfather, **Anar Singh**, owing to a disagreement with **Maharaja Man Singh** of Jodhpur, left Marwar for Kota about 1806, and through the influence of **Raj Rana Zalim Singh** received the *jagir* of Harigarh. Owing to this connection with **Zalim Singh's** family **Anar Singh's** son **Prem Singh** followed **Maharaj Rana Madan Singh** to Jhalawar where he received the *jagir* of Sarthal, the previous owner of which, a Hara Rajput, **Narpat Singh**, was granted a *jagir* in Kota. On the death of **Thakur Prem Singh** his widow adopted **Bijay Singh** from Ahor in Marwar, on whose death in 1888, his son, the present **Thakur**, succeeded to the estate. The **Thakur** was born in 1878 and was educated at the Mayo College. He has two brothers, **Thakur Bhawani Singh** and **Bakht Singh**, of whom the elder was adopted during his father's life-time into the Ahor family. The *jagir*, which has formerly worth about Rs. 40,000, is now valued at Rs. 25,000 a year. The revenue payable biennially to the State is Rs. 1,105, and forty *sowars* and ten footmen are supplied for the Raj service.

(15) **Maharaja Durjan Sal of Kotra**, a Hara Rajput of the Khatoli family of Kota, formerly held an estate in Jhalawar. On the formation of the new State of that name in 1899, this estate was incorporated with Kota, where the Maharaja already held a *jagir*.

The Jhalawar estate consisted of four villages, the annual value of which is Rs. 2,586. A tribute of Rs. 239 is payable in alternate years, and five *sowars* are furnished to the Darbar. This estate was conferred on the present holder's grandfather, who went to Jhalawar with **Maharaj Rana Madan Singh**. The Maharaja was born in 1874. He succeeded his father in 1900. The Maharaja was educated at the Mayo College.

(16) **Thakur Zalim Singh of Amritkheri** is a Bhati Rajput who holds also the *jagir* of Goraich in Mewar. **Thakur Sultan Singh**, the grandfather of the present **Thakur**, went to Jhalawar in 1841, and received a *jagir* which came back to Kota on the formation of the new State of Jhalawar. **Maharaj Ranas Madan Singh** and **Pirithi Singh** both married ladies from this family, the wife of the former being a sister of **Thakur Sultan Singh**. The estate formerly in Jhalawar consists of one village of the annual value of Rs. 877, and pays a biennial tribute of Rs. 47 to the Darbar. It is well managed and free from debt. **Thakur Zalim Singh**, who resides principally in Mewar, was born in 1864. He succeeded his father in 1890.

(17) **Rao Raja Partab Sahai of Harnaoda** is by birth a Rao or bard whose ancestor formerly lived in Karauli. One of them, **Chatur Bhuj** came to Gugair, now in Tonk, and received the village of Harnaoda in *jagir* from the then Khilchi Prince. His grandson **Partab Singh** was invited to Bundi by **Rao Bhan Singh** and received Harnaoda and three other villages in

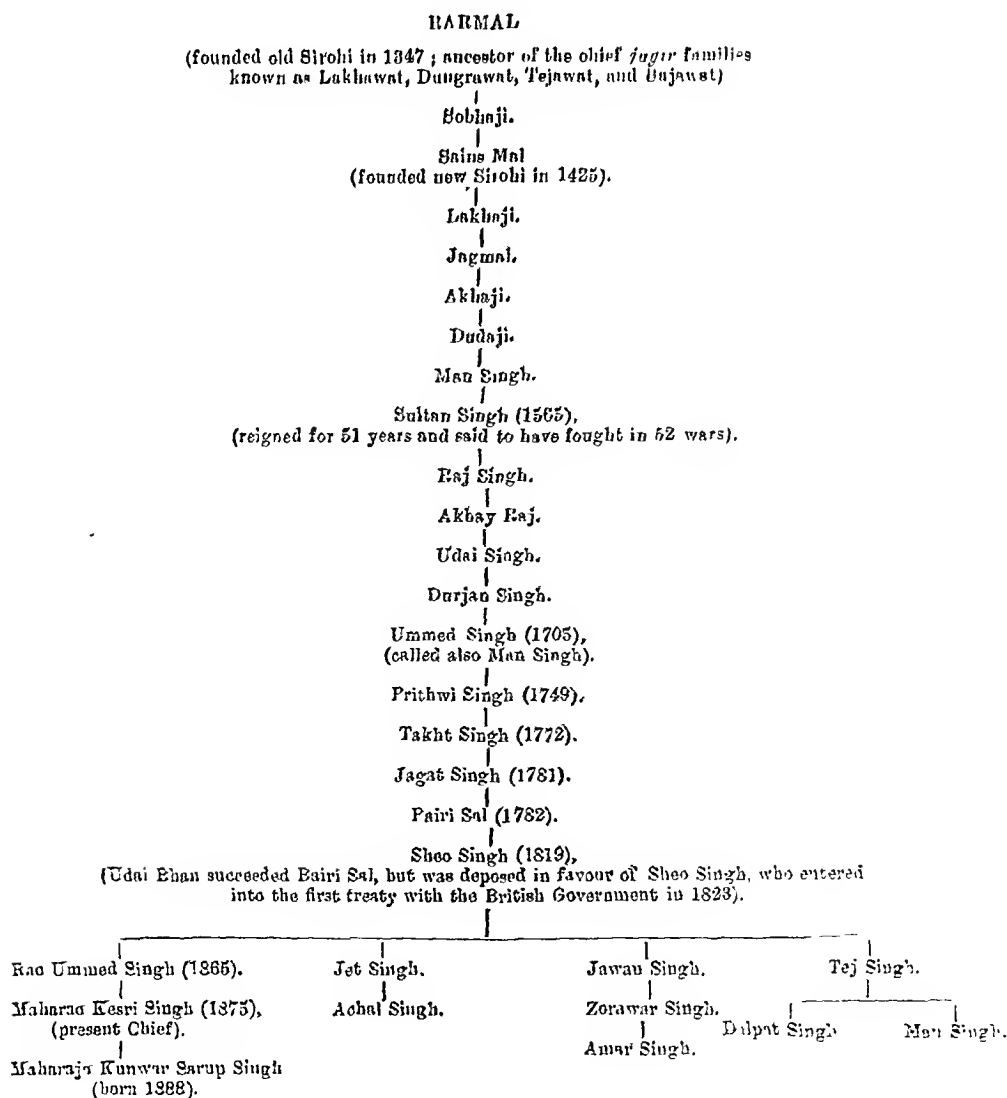
jagir. He also received three villages and the title of Rao Raja from Kota. The Kota villages being within the Parganas ceded to Maharaj Rana Zalim Singh in 1838, the family adhered to the State of Jhalawar, but on the restoration of Jhalawar territories to Kota, the Rao Raja returned to Kota. The *jagir* is valued at Rs. 10,000 a year. Rao Raja Partab Sahai, who was born in 1874, succeeded his father in 1891, and is the great-grandson of the first *Jagirdar*.

SIROHI.

The Chief of Sirohi, His Highness Maharao Sir Kaishree Singh Bahadur, K.C.S.I., G.C.I.E., is a Chauhan Rajput of the Deora sub-
 The Chief. clan, and was born on the 20th July 1857. He succeeded his father, the late Rao Ummed Singh, on the 24th November 1875. His Highness has been married four times—(1) to a daughter (now dead) of the Puar (Pramar) Rajput, Chief of Danta in Mahi Kantha, Gujarat; (2) to a daughter (now dead) of the Thakur of Barsoda, (Warsora) of the Chaora clan of Rajputs, also in Mahi Kantha; (3) to a daughter (now dead) of the late Chief of the Sesodia house of Dharmpur in the Surat Political Agency; and (4) to a daughter of the late Raja of Bhinai in Ajmer. He has one son, the heir-apparent, Maharaj Kunwar Sarup Singh, who was born on the 27th September 1888. The Chief's nearest relations after his son are his uncles Jet Singh and Tej Singh, and his cousins Zorawar Singh, son of Jawan Singh, Achal Singh, son of Jet Singh, Dalpat Singh and Man Singh, sons of Tej Singh, and Amar Singh, son of Zorawar Singh.

The only ruling families of note connected with that of Sirohi are those of Bundi and Kota. Marriages have taken place in recent times with the Kachhwaha family of Jeipur, the Rahtor families of Jodhpur and Kishangarh, the Jadon Bhati family of Karauli, and the Sesodia families of Dungarpur and Banswara. The Chief's mother was a daughter of the Baghela Thakur of Posina in Idar.

The following tree gives an abstract of the pedigree of the ruling house of Sirohi:—



The leading men of Sirohi consist of the nobles, one hereditary office-bearer and one non-hereditary official. The nobles are divided into three classes:—

Leading men.

- (1) The immediate relatives of the Maharao known as Raj Sahiban. Their descendants fall into a lower grade;
- (2) The Sarayats, who are styled Thakuran Raj Sri; and
- (3) Other Tazimi Sardars.

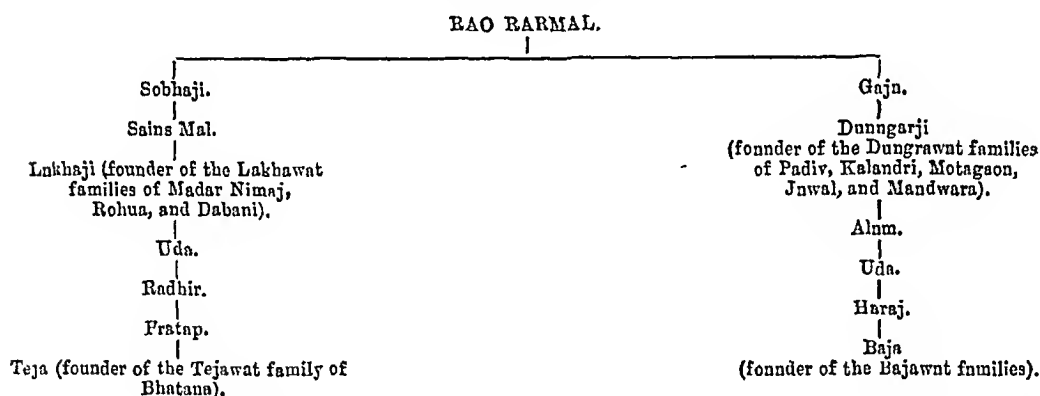
All the nobles are Deora Chauhans and the principal of them are Lakhawat, Dungrawat, Tejawat or Bajawat descendants of Rao Rarmal.

The Raj Sahiban are three in number, Jet Singh of Nadia, Tej Singh of Manadar, and Zorawar Singh of Ajari, of whom the first two are uncles and the third is a first cousin to the Chief. These occupy the front seats in Darbar and receive the double *tazim*. Similar honours are enjoyed by Raj Sri Sheonath Singh and Prithwi Raj of Mandar.

The four Sarayats, the Thakurs of Padiv and Jawal, Kalandri and Motagaon, sit on the right and left of the Chief. In the absence of the Thakur of Padiv his place in Darbar is taken by the Thakur of Nimaj. The two never attend Darbar together. After them come the Thakurs of Rohua and Bhatana, who also receive the double *tazim*. The Thakurs of Mandwara and Dabani are honoured with the single *tazim* only. Succession in the nobles' estates takes place by primogeniture, provision being made for younger sons. In Manadar and Bhatana this provision is so liberal as almost to amount to a partition of the estate. The payment in tribute to the Darbar varies from four annas in the rupee of the collections among those of high rank to twelve annas among the more insignificant. None hold any *jagir* in British territory.

The only hereditary office-bearer is the Thakur of Padiv, who binds on the Chief's sword and on State occasions sits behind him on his elephant.

The connection of the various families of nobles is shown in the following table:—



Individual notices.

The following personages may be noticed separately:—

- (1) Raj Sahiban Jet Singh of Nadia, uncle to the present Chief, holds an estate valued at Rs. 2,500. He was born in 1840. His son Achal Singh was born in 1865. Both father and son know Hindi.
Nadia.
- (2) Raj Sahiban Tej Singh of Manadar, who was born in 1848, is an uncle of the present Chief. He holds an estate worth about Rs. 4,500 a year. Of his two sons, the elder, Dalpat Singh (born in 1870), who was educated at the Mayo College, knows English and has passed the University Entrance Examination. Man Singh, the younger son, was born in 1887. Tej Singh is a man of considerable force of character. He obtained the estate of Manadar some years ago on the death of the Bajawat *Jagirdar* on the pretext that the late Thakur's widow had adopted him. The seizure of this property gave rise to an insurrection and Tej Singh was driven out. Ultimately with the help of the Darbar he recovered the *jagir*, and showed much tenacity and some ability.
Manadar.
- (3) Raj Sahiban Zorawar Singh of Ajari is the son of the late Jawan Singh, an uncle of the ruling Chief. He possesses an estate worth Rs. 3,000 a year. Zorawar Singh, who was born in 1865, has one son, Amar Singh, born in 1894.
Ajari.
- (4) and (5) Sheo Nath Singh, who was born in 1882, and his uncle Udai Raj, who was born in 1871, Lakhawat Deoras, hold the Madar estate of the annual value of about Rs. 2,500. They pay eight annas in the rupee as tribute to the Darbar, and enjoy the title of Raj Sri.
Madar.
- (6) Thakuran Raj Sri Mul Singh of Padiv died on 17th January 1899, leaving a minor son Abhey Singh, who was born on 14th January 1894. The Thakurate is the Chief of
Padiv.

the Sarayats (*vide* page 52). The estate, which is valued at Rs. 5,000 a year, consists of eight villages and pays six annas in the rupee to the Darbar.

- (7) **Thakuran Raj Sri Prithwi Raj** of **Kalandri**, a **Dungrawat** **Deora Rajput**, holds an estate worth about Rs. 3,000, which pays six annas in the rupee to the Darbar. The Thakur

Kalandri.

was born in 1854.

- (8) **Thakuran Raj Sri Megh Singh** of **Jawal** is also a **Dungrawat**. He was born in 1875 and was adopted from the **Nun** family of **Sirohi**. The estate is worth about Rs. 2,000 a

Jawal.

year and pays six annas in the rupee to the Darbar.

- (9) **Thakuran Raj Sri Lachman Singh** of **Motagaon**, a **Dungrawat**, was born in 1863 and was adopted from the **Baldut** family of **Sirohi**. The estate, which is worth Rs. 2,500

Motagaon.

pays six annas in the rupee to the Darbar.

The three last-named nobles are all **Sarayats**.

- (10) **Thakuran Raj Sri Himmat Singh** of **Nimaj** belongs to the **Lakhawat** family of the **Deora** sub-clan and was adopted from the **Dhau** family in **Sirohi**. The estate consists of

Nimaj.

eight villages of the value of Rs. 7,000, and pays six annas in the rupee to the Darbar. The Thakur, who was born in 1863, possesses also three villages in the **Palanpur** State. There is a hereditary feud between the **Sirohi** Darbar and the **Nimaj** family.

- (11) **Thakuran Raj Sri Ajit Singh** of **Rohua** who was born in 1852, is also a **Lukhawati**. He was adopted from the **Jolpur** family. The estate consists of ten villages of the

Rohua.

value of about Rs. 3,000, which pay eight annas in the rupee to the Darbar. The Thakur also holds some villages in the **Palanpur** State.

(12) **Thakuran Raj Sri Oodey Raj** of **Bhatana** who was born in 1876, is a **Deora** **Chohan** of the **Tejawat** branch and succeeded to the estate on the death of his father in August 1898. The estate, which pays eight annas in the rupee to the Darbar, is worth about Rs. 1,000. His father, **Bharat Singh**, when young, was in outlawry with his own father **Nathu Singh**, who for many years defied pursuit and kept the country disturbed. His successful opposition won for **Nathu Singh** and his family the admiration of **Sirohi** and songs are still sung in his praise.

- (13) **Thakur Dungar Singh** of **Mandwara** is a **Dungrawat**. He was born in 1874.

Mandwara.

The estate, which is worth Rs. 2,000 a year, pays to the Darbar half the collections in kind and

three-fourths of the collections in cash.

- (14) **Thakur Ajit Singh** of **Dabani** is a **Lakhawat**. He was born in 1878, and holds, besides one village in **Palanpur**, an estate in **Sirohi** of the value of Rs. 600 which pays half its income

Dabani.

to the Darbar. The Thakur was adopted from the family of a younger brother.

The present **Dewan** of **Sirohi**, **Singhi Jawahir Chand**, a **Bisa Oswal Mahajan**, who was born in 1852, was previously **Dewan** of the State from 1892 to 1894 and again from 1895 to May 1898, when he resigned. He was reappointed as **Dewan** in September 1899 and received the title of **Rai Bahadur** from the British Government on the 1st January 1901.

CHAPTER V.

JADON STATES.

[*Jaisalmer—Karauli.*]

The **Jadon** clan, of the early history of which very little is known, claims descent from

Jadon Clan.

the **Yadu** or **Jadon** kings. These monarchs, who in early days were very powerful, took their

name from **Yadu**, the patronymic of the descendants of **Bhuda**, the progenitor of the lunar race. The capitals of the **Yadus** are said to have been **Pryag** (**Allahabad**), and subsequently **Mathura** (**Muttra**). On the death of **Sri Krishna** the deified hero of the house, the tribe was dispersed. According to **Jaisalmer** accounts, many of them, with two of **Sri Krishna's** sons, abandoning

Jaisalmer.

Hindustan, settled beyond the **Indus**. One of their descendants was defeated and killed in battle,

and the tribe was driven southward into the **Punjab**, where **Salivahan**, son of **Gaj**, founded a town and named it after himself, **Gajgarh** (**Ghazni**). **Salivahan's** grandson **Bhati** was also a great and successful warrior, whose name was adopted by his clansmen as a tribal designation. Shortly after this, the tribe was again driven southward by the king of **Ghazni** and, crossing the **Sutlej**, took refuge in the Indian desert, which henceforth became its home. "This traditional account," says **Colonel Walter** in the *Gazetteer of Jaisalmer*, "may represent in outline the early migrations of the **Bhati** tribe, which may be supposed to have entered India from the north-west under heroic leaders now deified as the sons of **Krishna**, and to have been settled

for some time in the Punjab. One of the grand expeditions of Mahmud of Ghazni (1004-5 A.D.) was against the city of Bhatia, also called Bhera, which place is now said to have been on the left bank of the Jhelum, opposite the Salt Range, and there can be little doubt that Bhatia was, or had been, in the dominions of the Bhatia Rajputs. Mr. E. Thomas considers that the four last Hindu kings of Kabul (before the Ghaznavides) may have been Bhatia Rajputs. It may be taken as certain that the Bhatias were driven into the desert by the conquests of the Mussalmans on the north and west; that they maintained constant warfare on both borders for many generations with the Muhammadans, and that they gradually subdued and drove out the rival tribes or clans whom they found in the territory which they occupied, of whom one, the Sodas, appear to have been very strong; their head-quarters are now further westward towards Umarkot. Their head-quarters appear to have been placed successively at Tamoli, Deorawal, and Jaisalmer: the two first-named places still exist, the last is now the State's capital. Deorawal was founded by Deoraj, a famous prince of the Bhati family.

Deoraj became a great warrior and established the power of the Bhatias firmly in this desert tract; the title of Rawal also commenced with him, and he is counted as the real founder of the Jaisalmer family. The Bhatias gradually extended their possessions southwards, and many of them became notorious free-booters, a character they have continued to bear ever since. In 1156, Jaisal, the sixth in succession from Deoraj, founded the fort and city of Jaisalmer on a low range of sandstone hills and made it his capital, as being more secure than his former residence, Lodorva, which was in the open plain. Subsequent to the founding of Jaisalmer, there was a succession of warlike princes, who were constantly engaged in battles and raids, and whose taste for free-booting proved most disastrous, for on two occasions, *viz.*, in 1294 and shortly afterwards, the Bhatias so enraged the Emperor Alau-d-din that the Imperial army was despatched against them, and conquered and sacked the fort and city of Jaisalmer, so that for some time it remained completely deserted." In the sixteenth century the Bhatias formed an alliance with the Amirs of Sind against the Rahtors. Rawal Sabal Singh, the twenty-fifth prince in succession to Jaisal, was the first to acknowledge the supremacy of the Delhi Empire, and to hold his dominions in subordination to it. The Jaisalmer Chiefs had now arrived at the height of their power. Their territory extended northward to the Sutlej, thus including the whole of the province of Bahawalpur, and westward to the Indus, while to the east and south it comprised many districts, which were subsequently annexed by the Rahtors and incorporated in Marwar and Bikaner. From this time to the accession of Rawal Mulraj in 1762 the fortunes of the State rapidly declined, and most of the outlying provinces were wrested from it. Jaisalmer first entered into relations with the British Government in the reign of Mulraj.

According to the Karauli authorities, Maharaja Bijay Pal, a descendant of Sri Krishna, came from Mathura in 995 to the hill Mani which overlooks the modern town of Biana, and established himself as a powerful monarch. Fifty-one years later the rule of Bijay Pal was brought to an end by the Mussalmans of Ghazni under the leadership of Abu Bakr Shah, Kandahari. The Karauli chroniclers say that one of the eighteen sons of Bijay Pal was Gaj Pal, the founder of Gajgarh and of the Jaisalmer dynasty, and another Chatar Pal, who was killed near Ghazni in an invasion of Kabul. Regarding this account, which is irreconcilable with that of the Jaisalmer authorities, Colonel Powlett, the writer of the Karauli Gazetteer, remarks:—"Thus it is of little value, except as exhibiting the popular view of Jadon history. The allusion to Gajner and Ghazni evidently has reference to the foundation of Ghazni by the Jadons many years before this period, as told by Colonel Tod in his annals of Jaisalmer." Taman Pal, eldest son of Bijay Pal, established himself about 1052 at Tamangarh, 15 miles south-east of Biana, and eventually possessed himself of the *Dang* or high irregular ground above the Chambal comprising the country round the forts of Utgarh and Mandrel and reaching as far as Dholpur, besides the district in which the present towns of Karauli and Machilpur to the north-east of Karauli are situated. Taman Pal's son, Dharm Pal, was ousted from Tamangarh by his illegitimate half-brother, Har Pal, and built a fort and established himself at Dholera on the present site of Dholpur. His son Kunwar Pal recovered Tamangarh for his father, but the Muslim Governor of Biana taking the part of Har Pal, the whole territory fell into the hands of the Mussalmans. Dharm Pal was killed and Kunwar Pal fled to Rewa. Kunwar Pal's brothers became servants to the Mussalmans, and their descendants are still a despised race known as Gonj, which is said to be a contraction of *Gonkayar* or time-server. Kunwar Pal's descendant Arjun Singh (1327) managed to gain possession of the fort of Mandrel on the Chambal and to obtain confirmation of his occupation from the Court of Delhi. By degrees he recovered the whole of the territory of Taman Pal, established villages along the Badraoti and built the Thakar Kalyanji's temple on the site of Karauli, a name which is said to be a corruption of Kalyanji. In 1348 he laid the foundations of the city. The first remarkable Chief among his successors was Chand Pal (1449), who won great fame as an ascetic, and, according to the chroniclers, by his prayers, and by sending his grandson Gopal Das with an expedition of the Emperor Akbar, contributed greatly to the success of the Emperor's arms in the Dakhan. Gopal Das, who is said to have laid the foundations of Agra Fort at Akbar's request, eventually succeeded his grandfather and enlarged the borders of the State. From Gopal Das are descended two of the most important offshoots of the Karauli house, the Muktawats of Sir Mathura, Jhiri, and Sabalgarh, and the Bahadur ke Jadon sprung from the Tarsam Bahadur, who obtained Sabalgarh, Bahadurpur, and Bijaypur. Gopal Das's grandson Mnkund Das (1585) was the ancestor of the still numerous family of Mukund Jadons. His son Chatar Man (1632) was the ancestor, through his son Bhup Pal,

of the Inaiti Rao, one of the five chief nobles of Karauli, and through another son Shast Pal of the Manoharpur Kotri. From Dharm Pal, who succeeded in 1645, are descended the Gareri, Hadoti, and Roantra families. Gopal Singh, who succeeded in 1725, was on good terms with Delhi, whence he received the coveted *Mahi Maratib* or fish insignia. He is looked on as the greatest Chief of Karauli after Gopal Das. In the time of Maharaja Manak Pal (1772) the State was much harassed by the Mahrattas under Sindia and his General, Baptiste, and eventually lost Sahalgarh. In the next reign, that of Har Bakhsh Pal, who succeeded in 1804, Karauli first entered into relations with the British Government. These ended in the treaty of 1817, which rid the State of the Mahrattas. The reign of Maharaja Partap Pal, who succeeded in 1837, was marked by much internal dissension and fighting, which continued, notwithstanding the intervention of several British officers, till the Maharaja died. Order was restored in the next reign, that of the minor Maharaja Narsing Pal (1850-52), by Lieutenant Monck-Mason. On this Chief's death, the well-known Karauli adoption case came before the Government, and it was finally decided that, though there was no direct heir, the State should be preserved. Madan Pal was recognized as Chief, and in his reign Karauli rendered loyal service to Government during the Mutiny. On his death in 1869, his nephew Rao Laohhman Pal succeeded him, but died very shortly afterwards, being followed by Maharaja Jay Singh Pal, who died in 1875 and was succeeded by Maharaja Arjun Pal, on whose death in 1886 the present Chief, Maharaja Bhanwar Pal, occupied the *gadi*.

JAISALMER.

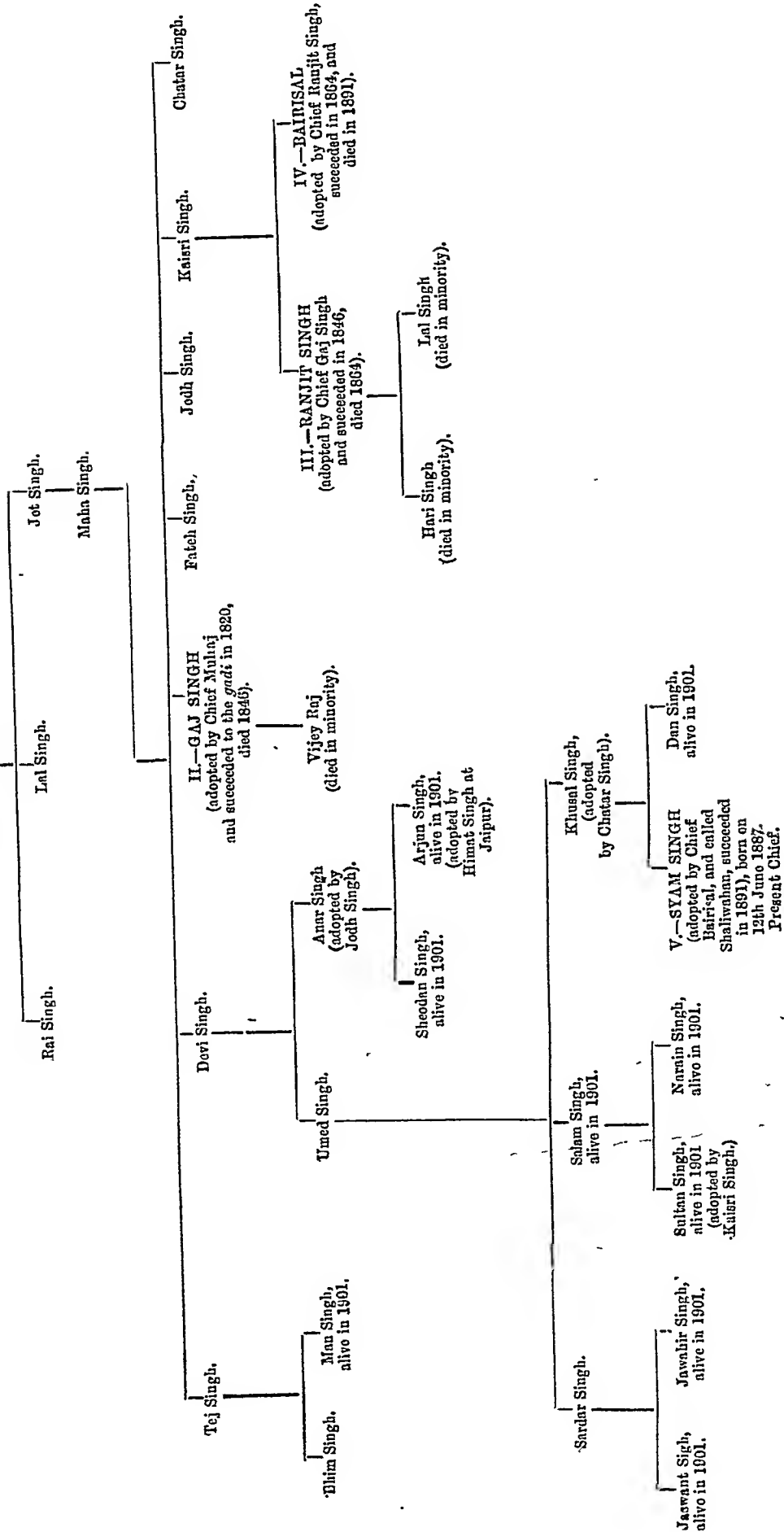
The present Chief of Jaisalmer is His Highness Maharaj Adhiraj Maharawal Salivahan Bahadur, who was born on the 12th June 1887. His Highness, a Rajput of the Jadon

Bhati clan, is the son of Thakur Khushal Singh of Lathi, and before his accession to the *gadi* was known as Syam Singh. He succeeded the late Maharawal Bairi Sal on the 10th March 1891. The nearest surviving male relative of the Maharawal is his younger brother, Thakur Dan Singh, who was born on 2nd February 1888. He has also two cousins, Sheodan Singh, and Salim Singh. The last-named has two sons, Sultan Singh and Narain Singh. The former has been adopted by Kesri Singh, *Jagirdar* of Nachna, and the latter is an infant born on 3rd June 1898. A deceased cousin, Sardar Singh, has left two sons, Jaswant Singh and Jawahir Singh. The adoptive mother of the young Chief was a Sesodia Rajput lady of the ruling house of Dungarpur. The Bhatias of Jaisalmer are also connected by marriage with the Raktors of Jodhpur, Bikaner and Kishangarh, and with the Hara Chauhans of Kota.

As already mentioned, the first ruler of Jaisalmer to enter into relations with the British Government was Maharawal Mulraj, who in 1818 concluded a treaty whereby the integrity of the State was guaranteed to the Chief and his posterity, provided the cause of quarrel was not ascribable to Jaisalmer. During the life-time of Mulraj, who died in 1820, the State was virtually governed by his Minister, Salim Singh, who committed the most awful atrocities. He put to death nearly all the relatives of the Chief. The town of Jaisalmer was depopulated by his cruelty, the trade of the country was interrupted, and those relatives of the Maharawal who escaped death, fled from the country. Mulraj was succeeded by his grandson Gaj Singh, in whose reign, after the conquest of Sind, the forts of Shahgarh, Gursia, and Gohtharu, which had been wrested from Jaisalmer, were restored to it. Maharawal Gaj Singh died in 1846, and his widow adopted Maharawal Ranjit Singh, who in 1864 was succeeded by his younger brother, Maharawal Bairi Sal, the late Chief, who died in 1891. The following is the genealogical tree of the ruling family commencing from Maharawal Mulraj, who entered into the first treaty with the British Government:—

I.—MULRAJ

JAMES O'LEARY
(entered into first treaty with the British
Government in 1818,
succeeded 1762, died 1820).



The leading men of the State are the relations of the Chief who are known as Rajwis,

Leading personages.

and the Thakurs. These are all Bhatias and are distinguished as Barsang, Khian, Tejmatot, Prith-

wirajot, Biharidasot, Dwarkadasot, Sakat Singhot, and Udai Singhot, according to the subdivision of the clan to which they belong. The chief of the nobles are the Raos of Bikampur and Barsalpur and the Thakurs of Jhinjinyali, Baru, Rindha Girajsar, Gehun, Khuri, Satyaya, and Nawatala, all of whom have the *deorhi* or double *tazim*. Except the first two, whose incomes are Rs. 5,000 and Rs. 8,000 respectively, all are unimportant, being petty Thakurs whose income in no case exceeds Rs. 1,700 a year. Primogeniture obtains among the Khian and Barsang Bhatias, the younger sons receiving maintenance only, but among the rest estates are generally equally divided. None of the nobles, except the Thakur of Bikampur, pay tribute or render service, though all present a horse on the accession of the Chief to the *gadi*. The only hereditary office-bearer of note is the Thakur of Chelak, whose position as Raj Pardhan entitles him to a seat behind the Chief on an elephant on State occasions. The official class is composed chiefly of Oswals and Mahesri Mahtas, Purohits, and Byases. The Mahtas generally hold the principal posts.

Among the Rajwis, the following may be mentioned :—

(1) Thakur Sultan Singh, son of Kesri Singh of Machna, holds seven villages with an income of Rs. 3,000. He was born on 24th May 1887 ;

(2) Thakur Man Singh, son of Tej Singh of Eta, born in 1843, has one village and a Kharin called Lonela with an income of Rs. 1,250 ;

(3) Thakur Jaswant Singh, son of Saidar Singh, born on 16th May 1874 ; and

(4) Thakur Salim Singh, son of Ummad Singh, born in 1859, own between them one small village. Jaswant Singh has one younger brother named Jawahir Singh, born on 18th November 1882. He was adopted by Thakur Man Singh of Eta on the 13th December 1899, and has since been called Kunwar Jowahir Singh.

(5) Thakur Sheodan Singh, son of Anar Singh, born in 1857, holds one village of the annual value of Rs. 50 only. The Thakur is a man of good education and of fair administrative experience which was acquired in Jhalrapatan, where his father Thakur Anar Singh of Gajwara lived. He is a State official and receives an allowance of Rs. 2,400 per annum. Other Rajwas also receive allowances from the State.

The principal nobles of the State are mentioned in the following list :—

| Name of estate. | Name of Noble. | Father's name. | Year of birth. | Sub-clan. | Number of villages. | Income. | Tazim. | Male issue. |
|---------------------|---------------------------|----------------|----------------|-----------------------|---------------------|---------|--------|------------------------------|
| | | | | | | Rs. | | |
| 1. Bikampur . | Rao Khetsi . | Sheo Shingh . | 1848 | Barsang . | 9 | 5,000 | Double | Amar Singh, Abhay Singh, ... |
| 2. Girajsar . | Thakur Amar Singh. | Jetmal . | 5-12-75 | Do. . | 1½ | 1,700 | Do. | ... |
| 3. Bikasar . | Thakur Bulidan | Sahibdan . | 1855 | Do. . | 1 | 600 | Single | ... |
| 4. } Sirran . | { Thakur Nawal Singh. | Partap Singh . | 1855 | Do. . | 2 | 1,500 | Do. | Three sons. |
| 5. } Sirran . | { Thakur Kan Singh. | Mul Singh . | 18-10-74 | Do. . | | 1,500 | Do. | ... |
| 6. Barsalpur . | Rao Dhanji . | Ranjit Singh . | 1853 | Khian . | 16 | 8,000 | Double | Moti Singh, Meghji. |
| 7. Jhinjinyali | Thakur Bulidan | Sheoji Singh . | 1852 | Udai Singhot | 3 | 1,250 | Do. | Four sons. |
| 8. Gehun or Baiya . | Thakur Achal Singh. | Bijay Singh . | 1863 | Do. . | 1 | 700 | Do. | ... |
| 9. Bhadli . | Thakur Kishen Singh. | Lalji . | 1883 | Do. . | 5 | 800 | Single | ... |
| 10. Deoran . | Thakur Bulidan | Shimbbudan . | 1855 | Do. . | 1 | 1,000 | Do. | ... |
| 11. Rindhan . | Thakur Bakhtawar Singh. | Prithwiraj . | 1841 | Tejmatot . | 1 | 1,000 | Double | Two sons. |
| 12. Modhan . | Thakur Ranjit Singh. | Nahar Singh . | 1845 | Do. . | 1 | 200 | Single | Two sons. |
| 13. } Barn . | { Thakur Panji . | Mnhabbat Singh | 18-3-67 | Dwarkadasot. | 6 | 1,700 | Double | ... |
| 14. } Barn . | { Thakur Bakhtawar Singh. | Hirji . | 1846 | | | | | One son. |
| 15. Satyaya . | Thakur Hathi Singh. | Fateh Singh . | 1888 | Sakat Singhot. | 1 | 530 | Do. | ... |
| 16. Nawa Tala . | Thakur Prntap Singh. | Bulidan . | 1851 | Prithwirajot | 1 | 1,000 | Do. | Two sons. |
| 17. Chelak . | Thakur Hemji . | Prithwiraj . | 1858 | Do. . | 1 | 300 | Single | ... |
| 18. Baragaon . | Thakur Madho Singh. | Jiwraj . | 1837 | Biharidasot | 1 | 400 | Do. | ... |
| 19. } Dangri . | { Thakur Laohman Singh. | Hemji . | 1862 | Do. . | 1 | 1,000 | Do. | ... |
| 20. } Dangri . | { Thakur Satidan | Sahibdan . | 19-5-68 | Do. . | | | | ... |
| 21. Rajgarh . | Thakur Hirji . | Jodh Singh . | 1846 | Do. . | 1 | 300 | Do. | Two sons. |
| 22. Khuri . | Thakur Rai Singh. | Ranjit Singh . | 1853 | Sodha Pnar (Umarkot). | 3 | 1,500 | Double | One son. |
| 23. Lunar . | Thakur Anand Singh. | Madho Singh . | 1836 | Do. . | 1 | 500 | Single | Four sons. |

Only two of the officials call for mention. Of these one, the Dewan, is a foreigner, and the other a native of Jaisalmer, Officials.

(1) Mahta Jagjiwan, the Dewan, is an inhabitant of Kachh Bhuj, whence he was sent for by the late Chief in 1890. He was born in 1840, is a Modh Mahajan by caste, and receives an annual salary of Rs. 4,800. In recognition of his services to the Jaisalmer State he has received the title of Rae Bahadur.

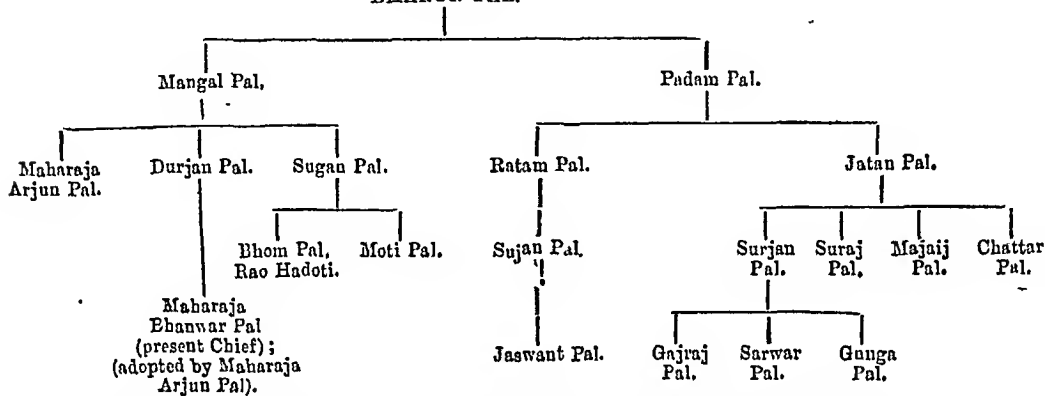
(2) Mahta Nathmal, a Mahesri Mahajan of Jaisalmer, born in 1837, was for many years Dewan of the State. In consequence of misconduct he has been directed to reside away from Jaisalmer for some time.

KARAULI.

The present Chief is His Highness Maharaja Bhanwar Pal Deo Bahadur Yadukul Chandra Bhal, G.C.I.E. His Highness, who was born on the 24th February 1864 and was the son

of Thakur Durjan Pal, succeeded to the *gads* of Karauli on the 14th August 1886, by adoption, to His Highness the late Maharaja Arjun Pal. The Chief, who has no relations nearer than cousins, has been married five times—(1) in 1878 to the daughter of Ajeet Singh of Koela in Kota in the Hara family, (2) in 1880 to the daughter of the Raja of Khandela in Jaipur, (3) in 1889 to the daughter of Ajeet Singh of Mandawa in Jaipur, both of the Sheikhwat family, (4) on the death of (1), which took place in 1897, to the daughter of the Chief of Banera in the Udaipur territory in 1898, and (5) in January 1900 to the daughter of the Raja of Baroda in the Gwalior territory. The third, fourth and fifth of these ladies are still alive. The following table shows the nearest relatives of the Maharaja. Some of them are still alive:—

BHARUN PAL.



The ruling family of Karauli is connected by marriage with Bundi, Kota and Sirohi. In 1785 a daughter of Maharaja Manick Pal was married to Rao Raja Bishen Singh of Bundi. A daughter of Maharaja Partap Pal (1839-53) married Maharao Chhatar Sal of Kota, and Maharaja Madan Pal (1854-69) married a daughter of the then Rao of Sirohi.

The Karauli family all bear the distinguishing appellation of Pal in token that they, as descendants of Sri Krishna, are protectors (Pal) of cows, whereas the lion (Singh) does not respect the sacred animal.

The leading men of Karauli are the nobles who are divided into Thikanedars, Bapotidars and others; hereditary office-bearers and other officials.

Leading personages.

The feudal aristocracy of the State consists entirely of the Jadon Thakurs connected with the ruling house. These pay as tribute a fixed sum which, though nominally one-fourth of the produce of the soil, is in reality much less—in fact less than half the share paid by common land-holders. This tribute is in lieu of constant military service which is not performed in Karauli. In case of military emergencies, or State pageants, the Thakurs come in with their retainers who, on these occasions, are maintained at the expense of the Darbar. The Thakur's families (Kotris) paying tribute are thirty-seven in number, of which those of Hadoti, Amargarh, Rawantra, Inaiti, Bharthun and Padampnrah are known as Thikanedars. The remainder are styled Bapotidars. Besides these 37 mentioned above, His Highness the present Maharaja having distributed *jagirs* to several Sirdars, has created some new Bapotidars.....The other families of nobles are of little importance and belong chiefly to the Hari Das and Mukand Kotris or to the Pal family. Succession is generally by primogeniture, but by custom a Thakur on succeeding to the estate is bound to assign grants of land for maintenance to his younger brothers. In some cases, estates are equally divided among all sons, and in others, partition takes place, the eldest receiving a double share. The nobles, though for the most part illiterate, are a powerful body in the State and have till quite recent times frequently defied the authority of the Darbar.

The only hereditary office-bearer of note is Raja Bahadur Lakhyat Singh. The most prominent of the non-hereditary officials are the following:—

| | | |
|---|---|---------------------|
| Kunwar Surjan Pal, Bhanwar Chiman Singh, Risaldar Bishal Singh, Bholanath Chatterji, Chowdhri Nirpat Singh, | } | Members of Council. |
|---|---|---------------------|

The first four are also Bapotidars.

Mahomed Ziauddin Khan, Civil and Criminal Officer of the State; Jemadar Mahomed Buksh Khan, Vakil to the Political Agent; Doctor Bhawani Singh, Personal Physician to His Highness; and Fauj Musaheb, Captain Ram Charan Singh.

CHAPTER VI.

KACHHWAHA STATES.

[Jaipur—Alwar.]

JAIPUR.

The accepted legend traces back the lineage of the Kachhwaha tribe to Kasb, the second son of Rama, who ruled at Ajudhya and who is said to have emigrated thence to Rhotas on the Son river, whence, after several generations, a second migration brought Raja Nal westward across the Jumna to Narwar. At Narwar the family established itself, till one Dhola Rao founded the parent city of the present Jaipur State at Amber in A.D. 967. After years of warfare, Dhola Rao and his Kachhwahas are said to have absorbed or driven out the petty Mina and Rajput Chiefs by whom the neighbouring territory was then held, and to have set up a tribal sovereignty known as Dhundar. The head-quarters of the State were fixed early in the eleventh century at Amber, but it is probable that the Chiefship remained of small importance, till in the sixteenth century its head attached himself to the side of the Mughal Emperors. Raja Bibari Lal was presented at Court in the first year of Akbar's reign, and subsequently gave his daughter in marriage to Akbar. His immediate successor did good service under that Emperor, and Jay Singh, later on, fought in the Dakhan for Aurangzeb, at whose instigation he was afterwards murdered. The next Chief of note was Jay Singh II, who received the title of Sawai* from the Emperor and founded the present city of Jaipur in 1728. This Chief, who attained great celebrity as a mathematician and astronomer, availed himself of the confusion prevailing at Delhi considerably to augment his dominions. After his death, however, the Chiefship was much harrassed by the attacks of its enemies and internal troubles. The Jats of Bharatpur annexed a portion of its territories. Another portion became the separate Chiefship of Alwar, and later in the century the Mahrattas interfered in the quarrels which arose between Mewar, Jaipur and Marwar owing to the treaty by which the two last-named houses had bound themselves to disregard the claims of primogeniture in favour of any son who might be born from a princess of Udaipur. In 1803 the Jaipur Chief, Jagat Singh, entered into relations with the British Government, but the treaty then made was dissolved by Lord Cornwallis. A quarrel between Jaipur and Jodhpur for the hand of a Mewar princess, which was only brought to a close by the murder of the lady, reduced both States to the verge of ruin, and Amir Khan took advantage of the prevailing confusion to harry Jaipur with his Pindaris. Jaipur again sought the protection of the English, which was granted by the treaty of 1818, by which the Maharaja, in consideration of payment of a tribute, was admitted to subordinate alliance and was guaranteed against external enemies. Jagat Singh died in 1818 and was succeeded by his posthumous son, Maharaja Jay Singh. This Chief was followed by his son, Maharaja Ram Singh, who died in 1880, when the present ruler came to the *gadi*.

ALWAR.

The ruling family of Alwar traces its descent from Udai Karu, who succeeded to the Chiefship of Amber in 1367. Udai Karu's eldest son, Bar Singh, was excluded from the succession in favour of Nahar Singh, the younger son, and received a grant of eighty-four villages in the neighbourhood of Jaipur. Naru, the grandson of Bar Singh, was the founder of the Naruka house and left five sons, of whom the eldest, Lala, was the ancestor of the ruling family of Alwar. His great-grandson,† Rao Kalyan Singh, settled in what is now Alwar territory and received from Jaipur the grant of Macheri and other villages, of which some were held by his successors till the time of Rao Partap Singh, who developed his little estate of two and a half villages into a principality and threw off his allegiance to Jaipur. Partap Singh having rendered great service to Jaipur by defeating the Jats at the battle of Maonda (1766), received permission to build a fort at Rajgarh near Macheri. Shortly afterwards he became practically independent, established other forts, and ultimately, in November 1775, obtained possession of Alwar, which till then had been held by the Jats of Bharatpur. From this time Partap Singh was recognized as their Chief by the other Narukas, and towards the

* The literal meaning of *sawai* is one and a quarter, and the title implies that holder is greater by one-fourth than ordinary rulers.

† Lala.

Ude Singh.

Lar Khan.

Fateh Singh.

Rao Kalian Singh.

end of his reign obtained from Delhi the much-coveted fish insignia (*mahi maratib*). Partap Singh died in 1791, having adopted as his successor Bakhtawar Singh, who at the commencement of the Mahratta war entered into an offensive and defensive alliance with the British Government and rendered useful service to Lord Lake at the battle of Lashwari. A treaty was made in 1803. In 1811, in consequence of the discovery of certain negotiations between Jaipur and Alwar, the Chief was obliged to bind himself not to enter into political relations with other States. On Bakhtawar Singh's death in 1815 he was succeeded by Maharao Raja Banni Singh, whom he had intended to adopt and who was accepted as their Chief by the Rajputs and the artillery (Golandaz). The succession was claimed on behalf of Bakhtawar Singh's illegitimate son Balwant Singh, and after much dispute it was settled that Banni Singh should have the title and Balwant Singh the power. Eventually the British Government interfered to secure proper maintenance for Balwant Singh, on whose death in 1845 his possessions reverted to the State. Banni Singh proved his loyalty by his attempt during the Mutiny to assist the beleaguered garrison of Agra. He died in 1857 and was succeeded by his only son, Maharao Raja Sheodan Singh, then a boy of twelve. The powers conferred upon the Maharao Raja in 1863 were greatly curtailed seven years later owing to the misgovernment of the Chief, and a Political Agent was again appointed to Alwar. Sheodan Singh died on the 11th October 1874, and was succeeded by Mangal Singh, a son of the Thakur of Thana, whose selection was approved by the Rajputs of the twelve Kotris or houses closely allied to the ruling branch. Maharao Raja Mangal Singh, G.C.S.I., on whom the title of Maharaja was conferred in 1889, died on the 22nd May 1892, and was succeeded by the present Chief, Maharaja Jay Singh.

JAIPUR.

The present Chief of Jaipur, His Highness Saramad-i-Rajaha-i-Hindustan, Raj Rajindar Sri Maharaj Adhiraj Sawai Sir Madho Singhji Bahadur, G.C.S.I., G.C.I.E., is a Kachh-

The Chief.

waha Rajput. His Highness, whose name till he came to the *gadi* was Kaim Singh, was born in 1862, and is by birth the son of the late Thakur Raghunath Singh of the Rajawat family of Isarda. He succeeded by adoption to the late Maharaja Ram Singh on the 29th September 1880. The Maharaja, who has no children alive, has contracted five marriages—(1) with the daughter of Thakur Budh Singh Pal, a Jadon Rajput of Amargarh in the Etah District of the North-Western Provinces; (2) in 1881 with the daughter, who died on the 25th March 1893, of His Highness Maharaja Prithwi Singh of Kishangarh who died on the 25th December 1879; (3) in 1882 with the daughter of the Raja of Dhrangadra in Kathiawar of the Jhala clan; (4) in 1891 with the daughter of the Rahtor Thakur of Khamor in Shapura; and (5) in 1892 with the daughter of the Tanwar Thakur Jiwraj Singh of Bikaner. The first of these alliances took place before the Maharaja's accession to the Chiefship, the rest afterwards. By each of the first two Maharanis a daughter was born to the Chief, but both these children have died. His Highness has no near relations on the male side, and there is a dispute as to what family is most closely allied to him. By clan the Maharaja is related to the Kachhwaha houses of Kashmir and Alwar. His adoptive mother, the widow of the late Maharaja Ram Singh, is the eldest sister of the late Maharaja Jaswant Singh of Jodhpur.

The abstract genealogical tree of the ruling family of Jaipur given on the following pages is said to be correct, but the earlier portion differs from the account given in the Gazetteer.

Leading men.

The leading men of the Jaipur State are divided into four classes:—

- (1) Hereditary nobles.
- (2) Hereditary office-bearers.
- (3) Non-hereditary office-bearers.
- (4) *Udikis* (usually Brahmans or persons belonging to some sacred class).

The nobles generally enjoy hereditary grants of land from the State in reward for services rendered, or by right of descent from the ruling family. Nobles of the Kachhwaha clan descended from the ruling house are known as *bhai-betas* or kinsmen. There are two classes of nobles, *Tacimi* and *Khas-chanki*. The members of the former class are received in Darbar by the Chief standing when they present their *nazars*. They are privileged to wear gold anklets. The principal nobles of Jaipur, all of whom will be noticed separately, are Kachhwahas and Rahtors. There are also many Sardars of less importance belonging to these and to the Sesodia, Tunwar, Bhati, and other tribes. The most important of the Muhammadan nobles is the Nawab of Badanpura. The late Pandit Sheodin has been succeeded by his eldest son, Pandit Bishambar Din, who is a Judge of the Appellate Court.

Gradation of rank among the nobles, though much importance is attached by themselves to kinship with the ruling house, depends less on this qualification than on the position to which the different families have raised themselves. The Rajawats, being the nearest connections of the ruling house, consider themselves the premier family of Jaipur. Next to them come the so-called twelve *kotris*, (1) Nathawats, (2) Chaturbhujots, (3) Kangarots, (4) Balbhadrats, (5) Sultanots, (6) Kalyanots, (7) Parammalots, (8) Pichanots, (9) Kumbhawats, (10) Banpirpotas, (11) Sheobarapotas, and (12) Kumbhanis.

The following families among others are also known as *Kotris*:—Shaikhawats, Narukas, Bankawats, and Gogawats. The origin of most of the *kotris* and their connection with the ruling family are shown in the genealogical tree given on page 73.

The largest fiefs in Jaipur are those of Sikar and Khetri, the possessors of which enjoy the titles of Rao Raja and Raja respectively, and exercise limited judicial powers within their estates.

The *Jagirdars* of Kukas and Talchiri claim descent from Bargujar families which ruled present Jaipur territory before its conquest by the Kachhwahas.

Dhula, Digi, Uniara, Chomu, and Samod held originally small estates which have been enlarged by subsequent grants.

The *jagirs* of Goner Kanota, Naila, Raipur and Karansar are modern grants dating from the reign of Maharaja Ram Singh II.

Succession is generally by primogeniture, the eldest son succeeding to the estate, and the cadets receiving a suitable annuity for maintenance. This rule is, however, not observed in Shaikhawati, where an almost equal division of the ancestral estate takes place between the several sons. The appanages thus created are merged again in the parent estate on failure of issue.

All nobles either serve the State with horse and foot or pay tribute in cash, the former being known as *jagirdars* and the latter as *mamla-guzars*. The *Udikis* render no service and pay no tribute.

There are very few hereditary office-bearers of importance, though some families enjoy grants of land as rewards for previous services. There are also some families which have maintained themselves for centuries by State service, one or more members always receiving some kind of employment. In a few cases offices of special importance are held by particular families so long as any member of them is found fit to perform the required duties. The Darogaship of the Toshakhana and the palace, and the posts of *Mir Bakshi* and *Wakia Navis* are instances of offices of this class.

The most important office of the State is the Council, of which His Highness the Maharaja is the President. The Council is divided into three departments:—Military, Foreign and Miscellaneous, Revenue and Judicial.

Certain Brahmans and other persons of sacred classes who have gained prominence as preceptors or heirs of preceptors of the Chief hold honours and grants.

- (1) Thakur Devi Singh of Chomu is one of the most distinguished representatives of the Nathawat branch of the Kachhwaha tribe, which takes its name from Nathaji, the son of

Individuals of note.

Gopalji, and grandson of Raja Prithwi Raj (1488-1528 A.D.). The Chomu estate, which renders service with cavalry and pays no tribute,

Chomu.

is situated 20 miles to the north of Jaipur. Of the ancestors of the present Thakur, Thakur Mohan Singh distinguished himself at the battle of Khandela in the reign of Maharaja Sawai Jay Singh II (1700-44), and Thakur Jodh Singh was killed fighting against the Mahrattas in the reign of Madho Singh I (1751-68). The late Thakur Gobind Singh obtained the title of Rao Bahadur from the British Government and of Bahadur from the Darbar, and was a Member of the State Council.

Thakur Devi Singh, who is by birth the son of Thakur Anand Singh of Ajayrajpora, was born on 17th September 1876, and succeeded Thakur Gobind Singh by adoption in December 1900. He is a Member of the State Council. The Thakur has a son born 22nd October 1900, and a brother named Kalyan Singh.

The Chomu family, besides its estate in Jaipur, holds a temple and some lands and buildings at Brindaban in the Muttra district.

(2) **Rawal Fath Singh of Samod** also belongs to the Nathawat branch of the Kachhwaha clan. His estate, which is situated 24 miles from Jaipur, pays no tribute, but renders service with horse. Rawal Fath Singh was born on 16th February 1873, and is by birth the son of Thakur Nathu Singh of Renwal, and succeeded by adoption in 1885 to Rawal Bijay Singh. Of the former Rawals of Samod, Ram Singh was killed in battle against the Mah-rattas in the reign of Maharaja Madho Singh I (1751-68), Rawals Bairi Sal and Sheo Singh were Ministers in the reigns of Maharajas Jay Singh III (1818-35) and Ram Singh II (1835-80), and Rawal Bijay Singh was guardian to the present Chief. The present Rawal, who holds no official position in the State, has no son and no near relations in the family of his adoption. His nearest relatives are the Thakur of Chomu and the *Jagirdars* of Renwal and Ajayrajpora.

(3) **Thakur Bijay Singh of Jhalai**, a Kachhwaha Rajput, belongs to the Sangram Singhot branch of the Rajawat sub-clan which is descended from Maharaja Jagat Singh (1803-13). The estate, which is exempt from service and tribute, is situated 44 miles to the south of Jaipur. The Thakur was born on 29th December 1853. He succeeded to the *jagir* in 1895 on the death of his father Nahar Singh and holds no official position. He has a cousin named Raghunath Singh, who holds a *jagir* in Bikaner. The families of Isarda and Baler are closely related to that of Jhalai.

(4) **Rao Raja Guman Singh of Uniara** is a Kachhwaha Rajput and is the head of the Naruka branch of that family settled in Jaipur. He is a powerful feudatory of the State and holds a *jagir* 70 miles to the south of Jaipur, which pays an annual tribute of Rs. 38,335 to the Darbar. None of the family have held any official position in the State, but some of them have rendered important services to the Chief, in recognition of which Maharaja Sawai Jay Singh II (1700-44) conferred the title of Rao, and Maharaja Madho Singh I (1751-68) that of Raja, on Ajit Singh. Rao Raja Guman Singh, who was born on the 4th October 1885, is by birth the son of Thakur Chiman Singh of Bijaygarh, and succeeded to Uniara by adoption on the death in 1886 of Rao Raja Sangram Singh. He has no relations in the Uniara family.

(5) **Thakur Devi Singh of Digi** is the head of the Khangarot sub-clan of the Kachhwaha Rajputs which is descended from Raja Prithwi Raj (1488-1528) through the latter's son Jagmalji. The estate, which lies 40 miles to the west of Jaipur, serves the Darbar with horse. Thakur Devi Singh, who was born on the 5th December 1862, is by birth the son of Thakur Bairi Sal of Mundia, and was selected as the fittest claimant to Digi by His Highness the Maharaja on the death without issue of Thakur Pratap Singh in 1892. Thakur Pratap Singh was a Member of the State Council from 1881, and his ancestors, Thakurs Megh Singh and Bhim Singh, were Members of the *Panch Musahibat*. The present Thakur is a Member of the State Council. He has one son, and is nearly related to the families of Mundia and Lambia.

(6) **Rao Pratap Singh of Maoharpur** is a Kachhwaha Rajput of the senior branch of the Shaikhawat sub-clan which takes its origin from Raja Udai Karn (1388-1413) through Shaikha, the descendant of his fourth son. The estate, which is situated 30 miles to the north of Jaipur, renders service with horse, and pays Rs. 6,300 as tribute to the Darbar on account of the tenure of Bishangarh. Rao Pratap Singh was born on 18th February 1872, and holds no official position, is by birth the son of Thakur Balwant Singh of Gadhi, and succeeded Thakur Sheonath Singh of Maoharpur by adoption in 1881. He has one son, after whom his nearest relatives belong to the Gadhi family.

(7) **Raja Hamir Singh of Khandela**, Senior Branch, is also a Shaikhawat, being descended from Rao Suja of Maoharpur through the latter's son Rai Sal. The estate, which lies 60 miles to the north of Jaipur, pays an annual tribute of Rs. 36,192. On the death of Raja Sanwant Singh, the last holder, the succession was disputed, and Hamir Singh, son of Thakur Dule Singh of Dadia, was selected by the Darbar in 1890 as the rightful claimant. He was born in 1871, and holds no official position. He has no son. The Dadia family is the nearest by relationship to that of Khandela. Raja Sujan Singh is the head of the junior branch of the Khandela family which divided about 28 years ago.

(8) **Rao Raja Madho Singh Bahadur of Sikar** is a Kachhwaha Rajput of the Shaikhawat sub-clan and belongs to the Raojika family which is descended from Tejmal, son of Raja Rai Sal of Khandela. The estate is situated 72 miles to the north-west of Jaipur, and pays a tribute of Rs. 42,000 a year. The Sikar family has rendered important services to the Darbar

in times of emergency; thus Rao Sheo Singh was severely wounded in battle against the Mahrattas, and Thakur Budh Singh was killed fighting for Jaipur against Jawahir Singh of Bharatpur. The title of Rao Raja was conferred on Laehhman Singh of Sikar by Maharaja Jagat Singh (1803-18). Rao Raja Madho Singh was born on 28th May 1860, and has received as a personal distinction from the Darbar the title of Bahadur. The *panch-ranga* * flag was conferred on him by Maharaja Ram Singh in 1877. He belongs by birth to the allied family of Sarwari and succeeded to Sikar by adoption in 1865. He has no son or near relation. The families most closely allied to Sikar are those of Bathnoth, Paluda, and Sarwari.

(9) **Raja Jai Singh of Khetri** is, like the Rao Raja of Sikar, a Shaikhawat, being descended from Bhojraj, a son of Raja Rai Sal of Khandela. He holds from the Jaipur Darbar the estate of Khetri which lies 90 miles to the north of the capital, and pays a tribute of Rs. 75,000 a year. From the British Government he holds as a free grant the *pargana* of Kot Putli which was conferred on Thakur Akhay Singh during the reign of Maharaja Jagat Singh (1803-18). This Chief bestowed the title of Raja on Abhay Singh. Raja Jai Singh, who was born on 26th January 1893, is by birth the son of the late Raja Ajit Singh, whom he succeeded on his death in January 1901. The families of Harina, Aلسisar, Arnka, and Badangarh are those most closely connected with Khetri. The title of Bahadur conferred on his late father by the Maharaja is a hereditary one.

(10) **Rao Lachhman Singh of Duni**, a Kachhwaha Rajput, is the head of the Gogawat sub-clan which is descended from Raja Kuntal (1274-1318). The estate, which serves the Darbar with horse, is situated 80 miles south-west of Jaipur. The Rao was born in 1861, and is by birth the son of Thakur Biradh Singh of Ajayrajputra. He succeeded by adoption to the late Rao Jiwan Singh who was a Judge of the Appellate Court and subsequently a Member of the Jaipur Council. The title of Rao was conferred on Sheonath Singh by Maharaja Prithwi Singh (1768-79), whom he served first in the capacity of *Fauj Bakshi* and subsequently in that of Dewan. Another ancestor of the present Rao, Rao Chand Singh, also held the office of Dewan. Rao Lachhman Singh has no sons. The families most nearly allied to Duni are those of Ajayrajputra and Balmukundpura. It is the privilege of the *Jagirdar* of Duni to sit behind the Chief on the same elephant in all State processions and to wave the *chanwar* † over him. He was appointed *Bakshi Killajit* in March 1895.

(11) **Thakur Sanwant Singh of Bagru** is the head of the Chutarbhujot sub-clan of the Kachhwaha Rajputs which is descended from Chatrnbhuj, a son of Raja Prithwi Raj I (1488-1528). The estate, which is situated 18 miles to the west of Jaipur, serves the Raj with horse and pays no tribute. Of the ancestors of the present Thakur, one, Thakur Padm Singh, distinguished himself in a battle fought near Agra, and received a robe of honour from Maharaja Jay Singh II (1700-44); another, Thakur Gulab Singh, was killed in a battle against the Mahrattas in the reign of Maharaja Madho Singh I (1751-68). Thakur Sur Singh, the late head of the house, was a member of the *Panch Musahibat* and Judge of the Appellate Court in the time of Maharaja Ram Singh II (1835-80). Thakur Sanwant Singh, who succeeded his father Thakur Sur Singh in 1863, was born in 1841. He had three sons, of whom the eldest died leaving a grandson Jaswant Singh, who was born in 1882. The other two sons, Pratap Singh and Hari Singh, were born in 1872 and 1878 respectively.

(12) **Thakur Kesri Singh of Achrol** is the head of the Balbhadrot sub-clan of the Kachhwaha Rajputs, being descended from Raja Prithwi Raj (1488-1528) through the latter's son Balbhadar. Thakur Balbhadar was killed in Gujarat, and his son, Achaldas, quelled a rebellion in Shaikhawati, receiving the office of *Fauj Musahib* in recognition of his services. He and his followers were subsequently killed in the battle of Dhanori. His son, Mohan Singh, and his grandson, Kan Singh, were also *Fauj Musahibs* in their turn. In the reign of Maharaja Ram Singh II, Thakur Ranjit Singh was appointed *Faujdar* (City Magistrate) and subsequently Judge of the Appellate Court. Later on, he became a Member of Council. Thakurs Lachhman Singh and Raghunath Singh also held the office of Judge of the Appellate Court. The family estate, which is situated 18 miles to the north of Jaipur, serves the Darbar with horse. Thakur Kesri Singh succeeded his father, Thakur Raghunath Singh, in 1891. He has one younger brother, Kishan Singh, who was born on 27th August 1875, and has a son born on 15th July 1901. His next relatives are Thakur Ram Nath Singh and his two brothers.

(13) **Thakur Sheo Singh of Banskho**, a Kachhwaha Rajput, is the head of the Kumbhani sub-clan which is descended from Raja Joshi (1318-67). His estate, which is situated 24 miles to the east of Jaipur, serves the Darbar with horse. The Thakur, who holds no official position, was born in 1874, and is the adopted son of Bairi Sal of Banskho. One of his ancestors, Thakur Chur Singh, held the office of Diwan.

(14) **Rawat Bane Singh of Dhula**, a Kachhwaha Rajput, is a Rajawat of the Durjan Singhot family, which traces its origin to Raja Man Singh (1590-1615). The estate, which renders military service to the Raj, is situated 25 miles to the east of Jaipur. Thakur Dalel

* The striped Rajput standard of five colours.

† Yak's tail, used to keep off flies.

Singh of Dhula, an ancestor of the present Thakur, held the offices of *Faujdar* and *Kotwal* of Amber in the reign of Maharaja Sawai Jay Singh II (1700-44). Another ancestor, Thakur Lachhman Singh, was killed with his son fighting against Jawahir Singh of Bhairatpur. In recognition of the services rendered on this occasion a grant of villages was made to the family. The title of Rawat was conferred on another ancestor, Thakur Ragbunath Singh. Rawat Ranjit Singh was a member of the *Panch Musahibat* and was subsequently *Nazim* of Sbaikhawati and Torawati. The late Rawat, Bairi Sal, died on the 23rd March 1893, and was succeeded by adoption by the present *Jagirdar*, who was the son of the late Thakur Arjun Sal of Thetra, and who was born on 12th October 1884. The Rawat has no nearer relatives than those of the Thetra family.

- (15) Thakur Sheonath Singh of Dudu belongs to the Kangarot branch of the Kachhi-waha tribe, which is descended from Jagmal, son of Raja Prithwi Raj (1488-1528). The estate,

Dudu.

which lies 40 miles to the west of Jaipur, is exempt from payment of tribute, but serves the Darbar with horse. It was conferred originally on Thakur Anand Singh who had been employed by the Darbar as *Faujdar*. His son, Pahar Singh, was made a Minister of the State. Thakur Sheonath Singh, who was born on 31st January 1864, succeeded his father, Thakur Lachhman Singh, in 1884. He has two sons, one born in 1886 and the other in 1890, and two brothers of whom one is now Thakur of Sali by adoption.

- (16) Thakur Sawai Singh of Isarda is a Rajput of the Rajawat sub-clan. The estate lies 65 miles to the south of the capital. The houses most closely connected with it are those of

Isarda.

Jhalai, Barwara, Sewar, and Baler.

- (17) Thakur Kusal Singh of Gijgarh is a Rahtor Rajput of the Champawat sub-clan which traces its origin to the Pokaran family of Marwar (see page 7). The *jagir* of Gijgarh, which

Gijgarh.

is situated 60 miles south-east of Jaipur and serves the Darbar with horse, was originally conferred in 1775 on Thakur Syam Singh who came to Jaipur in the reign of Maharaja Prithwi Singh (1768-79). An ancestor of the present Thakur, Ummed Singh, was killed with his followers when fighting for Jaipur in a battle near Tori. In recognition of the services rendered on this occasion the number of horses which the family was liable to contribute for the use of the Darbar was reduced by ten. Thakur Kusal Singh, who is a *Tazim* Sardar of both Jaipur and Jodhpur, was born on 3rd February 1893, and succeeded to the estate by adoption in 1901, on the death of his father Thakur Kanb Singh. He holds the appointment of Superintendent, Khassa Shutr Kbana, *i.e.*, camel stables, and has no nearer relatives than the families of Pokaran and Daipha in Marwar.

- (18) Thakur Indar Karn of Seora is a Rahtor Rajput of the Karnot sub-clan, which traces its origin to the ruling Chiefs of Marwar.

Seora.

The estate, which is situated 40 miles to the west of Jaipur, serves the Darbar with horse. Thakur Indar Karn, who succeeded Thakur Chand Karn by adoption, was born on the 16th January 1885. Deo Karn Thakur of Kot Kbaoda is his near relative.

- (19) Thakur Rup Singh of Naila, a Rahtor Rajput of the Pilwa family of the Champawat sub-clan of Marwar, holds an estate 12 miles east of Jaipur, and serves the State with

Naila.

horse. He was born on 25th November 1856. Thakur Fath Singh, father of Thakur Rup Singh, was *Bakhshi* of the *Kilajat*,* when Naila was given to him in *jagir* in 1860 by the late Maharaja Ram Singh II (1835-80), who also conferred on him the honour of the *tazim* and appointed him a Member of the Council. Subsequently he held the office of Chief Minister and Vice-President of the Council till the accession of the present Chief. Thakur Rup Singh is Judge of the Appellate Court. He has two sons, Partap Singh born 26th December 1877, and Duleep Singh born in October 1888, date not known.

- (20) Thakur Mukund Singh of Goner belongs to the same family as the Thakur of Naila (No. 19), and holds an estate (the title to which is now under dispute) 12 miles south-east

Goner.

of Jaipur, which serves the Darbar with horse. The estate was conferred on Thakur Shimbhu Singh, the father of the present holder and brother to Thakur Fath Singh of Naila who held the office of *bakhshi jagir* and was subsequently a Member of the Council. The late Maharaja also conferred on him the *tazim*. Thakur Mukund Singh who was born in 1850, succeeded his father in 1886. His near relations are his son Bbur Singh, born in 1873, his brother Chiman Singh and his uncle Thakur Zorawar Singh of Kanaota. He has also several cousins in Jaipur and Marwar.

- (21) Thakur Zorawar Singh of Kanaota is an uncle of Thakur Rup Singh of Naila (No. 19), and received a *jagir* eight miles to the east of Jaipur and the *tazim* at the same time as

Kanaota.

his brother. The estate serves the Darbar with horse. The Thakur, who has been appointed a Member of Council, was born on 25th February 1826.

- (22) Thakur Jiwan Singh of Surajgarh is a Kachhwaha Rajput of the Sbaikhawati sub-clan, which traces its descent from Balu, son of Raja Udai Karn (1367-88). The estate,

Surajgarh.

* Warden (*liv. paymaster*) of the Forts.

which lies 140 miles to the north of Jaipur, is subject to an annual tribute of Rs. 8,595. According to the Shaikhawat custom, the *jagir* was divided on the death of the late Thakur between his four sons. Of these two died and one succeeded by adoption to Bisau. The whole *jagir* is therefore held by Thakur Jiwan Singh. He was born in 1861. His father, Thakur Gobind Singh, served with the Jaipur forces under British Officers in the Mutiny of 1857. His nearest relative is Thakur Bishen Singh of Bisau, after whom come members of the Dundlod family.

- (23) Thakur Bishen Singh of Bisau is also a Kachhwaha Rajput of the Shaikhawa clan. He holds an estate 120 miles north of Jaipur, which yields an annual tribute of Rs. 9,885.

A former *Jagirdar* of Bisau served with his contingent under British Officers during the Mutiny, and his son Jawahir Singh was deputed by the Darbar to restore peace in Shaikhawati, which had been greatly disturbed by two well-known dakaits, Dang Singh and Jawahir Singh. Thakur Bishen Singh succeeded his father Thakur Jagut Singh in 1895. He was born on 21st February 1892.

- (24) Rao Mukund Singh of Patan or Jilo Patan is a Tunwar Rajput who holds an estate 72 miles north of Jaipur, which yields an annual tribute of Rs. 7,641. He also holds some villages in the Anupshahr Pargana of the Bulandshahr District of the North-Western Provinces. Rao Mukund Singh who was born on 23rd July 1860, is by birth the son of Pratap Singh, a brother of the late Rao Kishan Singh. He succeeded the latter by adoption in 1873. His nearest relations are the descendants of Rao Bakhshi Ram, an ancestor separated from him by nine generations.

The following officials call for individual notice :—

- (1) The Honourable Nawab Mumtaz-ud-dowlah Mahomed Fayaz Ali Khan, the present head of the Lalkani Rajput family, belongs to the Rajput Badgujar clan.

The family traces its origin from Raja Ram Chandraji. He was born on 4th November 1851. His father was the Honourable Nawab Mumtaz-ud-dowlah Nawab Sir Mahomed Faiz Ali Khan Bahadur, K.C.S.I., who rendered meritorious services both to the Government of India and to the Jaipur State for which he was suitably rewarded, and who died in 1894.

The present Nawab has been a member of both the Imperial and the North-Western Provinces Legislative Councils. He is a Trustee of the Agra College and the President of the Trustees of the M. A. O. College, Aligarh.

In September 1901 he was appointed member of the Foreign Department of the Jaipur State Council. He has succeeded to his late father's hereditary estates, both in British India and in Jaipur. The Jaipur *jagir* enjoyed by him is worth Rs. 22,000 per annum, and is situated 80 miles east of the Jaipur city. He has one son born on the 21st November 1877 and two grandsons.

- (2) Thakur Bhoor Singh is a Kachhwaha Rajput of Shaikhawati sub-clan, descended from Raja Udai Karn and was born on the 14th January 1863. His estate, Malsisar, is situated 105 miles north of the capital. He succeeded his father Udai Singh on 19th March 1878. He pays Rs. 3,000 as tribute to the Darbar. He is a member of the Judicial Department of Council and has three sons.

- (3) Thakur Mehtab Singh of Siwar is a Kachhwaha Rajawat, descended from Maharaja Man Singh of Jaipur. His estate is situated 55 miles south of the capital. The Thakur was born in 1871. He succeeded his father Ranjit Singh in 1883 by adoption. The Thakurs of Gopalpura and Doodwari are his close relations. He is a member of the Foreign Department of the Council.

- (4) Thakur Umrao Singh of Kotla (North-Western Provinces) is a Rajput of the Jadu clan and is uncle-in-law to His Highness the Maharaja. He is a British Indian subject and possesses considerable properties in the North-Western Provinces. He was born in 1844 and was appointed as a member of the Revenue Department of the Jaipur State Council on the 1st April 1901.

- (5) Babu Isan Chunder Mookerji, Bengali, succeeded his father, the late Rao Bahadur Kantec Chunder Mukerji, C.I.E., formerly Chief Member of the State Council, Jaipur, on the 8th February 1901. He was born in 1872.

In 1899 he was appointed a Judge of the Appellate Court and since April 1901 he has been working as Revenue Member in the State Council. He has one son.

- (6) Babu Sansar Chunder Sen, Bengali ———, entered the service of the Darbar in August 1866. In 1874 he was made Head Master of the Rajput Noble School, and on the 24th December 1880 was appointed Private Secretary to His Highness the Maharaja, —which post he held until the 1st April 1901, since which date he has been promoted as a member of the Foreign Department of the Council. He has three sons, and was born in April 1846.

- (7) Mahomed Abdul Vajid Ali Khan is a Badgujar Rajput, known as Lalkhani. He holds in *jagir* the village of Jhagar. He was born in 1848. In 1892 he was appointed a Judge of the Appellate Court and has been a member of the Judicial Department of the Council since 29th June 1899.

LAWA.

The Thakur of Lawa is of the Kachhwaha clan of Rajput, and claims the same descent as the Chief of Jaipur who is the acknowledged head of the clan.

Lawa separated from Jaipur in the time of Bar Singh, the younger brother of Udekaran, Maharaja of Amber the ancient capital of Jaipur.

Bar Singh's grandson Naruji, whose descendants are called "Narukis," had two sons, Lalaji and Dasaji. From Lalaji are descended the Chiefs of Alwar, and from Dasaji the Thakurs of Lawa.

Kesri Singh, eighth in descent from Dasaji, was made *jagirdar* of Ladana by the Chief of Jaipur. He had two sons, Sawant Singh and Nahar Singh. Sawant Singh became head of the Ladana Thikana, while Lawa was granted to Nahar Singh by the Chief of Jaipur in Sambat 1779 A.D. (1722).

Lawa became subordinate to the Tonk State when the British Government conferred the pargana of Tonk on Nawab Amir Khan, Nawab of Tonk, but the connection was finally severed by the British Government in 1867 in consequence of the murder of the Thakur and his relatives at the instigation of the Tonk Darbar.

The Chiefship consists of a single town with lands attached, situated about 20 miles north-west of Tonk.

Rai Bahadur Thakur Mangal Singh, the present Thakur of Lawa, who is a Kachhwaha Rajput of the Naruka Dasawat sub-clan, is the seventh in descent from Nahar Singh. He was born on the 18th October 1873, and was married to the grand-daughter of the Thakur of Kachhawan in Marwar on the 5th February 1893.

The relatives of the Thakur, who form the chief men of the Thikana, are granted lands in *jagir* called "Havalas." These are eight in number, and consist of 10,000 bighas yielding an annual rental of Rs. 10,000. No tribute is levied from the Havalas, but whenever the Thakur leaves Lawa, the holders have to accompany him by turns.

All matters affecting the Chiefship, which are of an important nature, are submitted to a committee consisting of three members before they are finally disposed of.

The Chief, who was recently made a Rao Bahadur in recognition of his successful famine administration, does not enjoy a salute, but is entitled to be received by His Excellency the Viceroy, who however does not return the visit.

The powers of the Thakur are as follows:—

In judicial matters he is invested with powers similar to those enjoyed by a Tazimi Istamrardar in the Ajmer districts, *viz.* :—

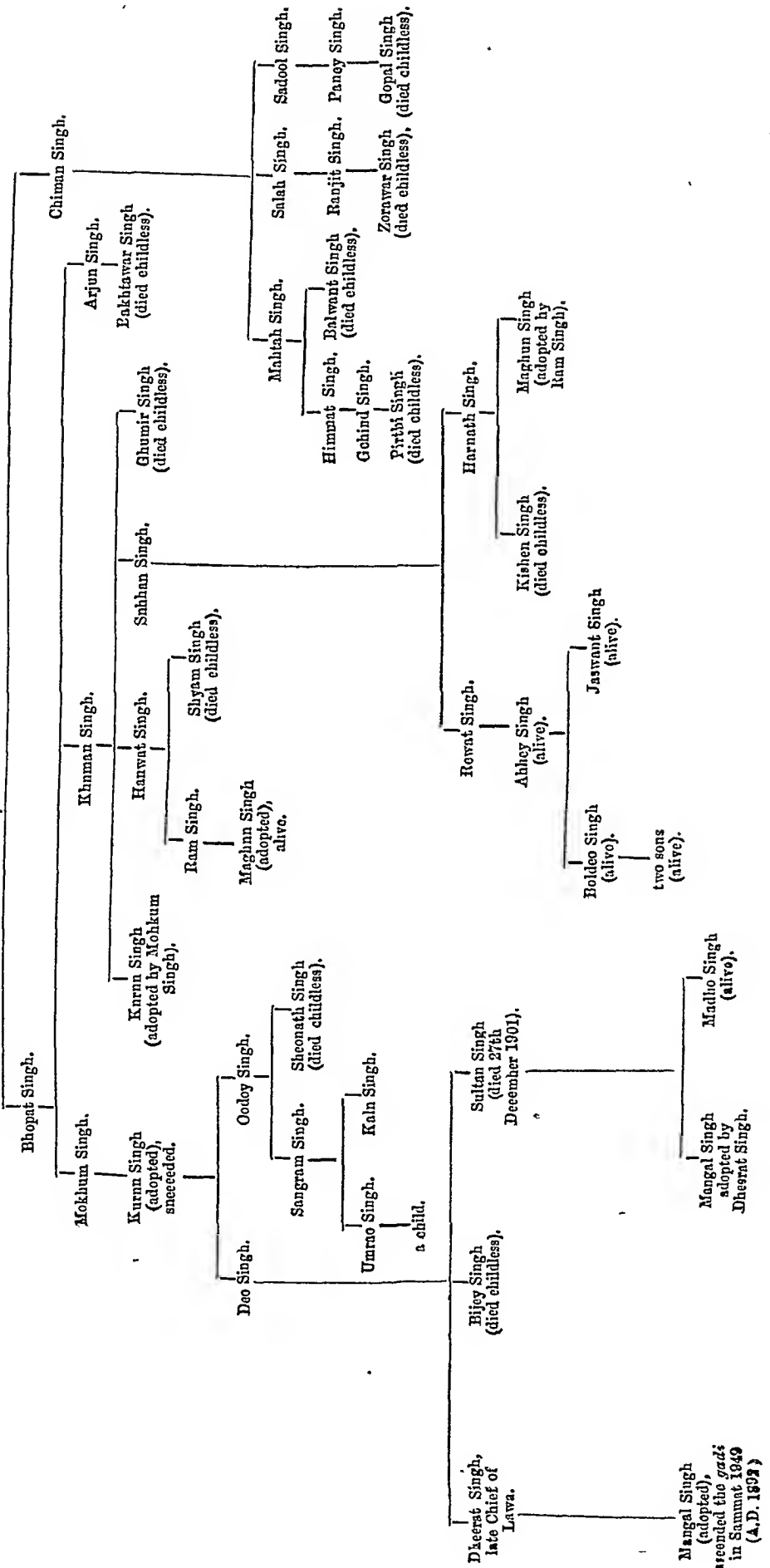
(a) In criminal cases those of a Magistrate of the 3rd class as defined in the Code of Criminal Procedure.

(b) In civil cases those of a Munsiff having jurisdiction to hear suits, the subject-matter of which does not exceed Rs. 100.

All appeals from the Thakur's decision lie to the Resident, Jaipur, who also disposes of original work, civil and criminal alike, which the Thakur is not empowered to deal with.

Genealogical Table of the Thakur of Lava.

THAKUR NAHAR SINGH.



ALWAR.

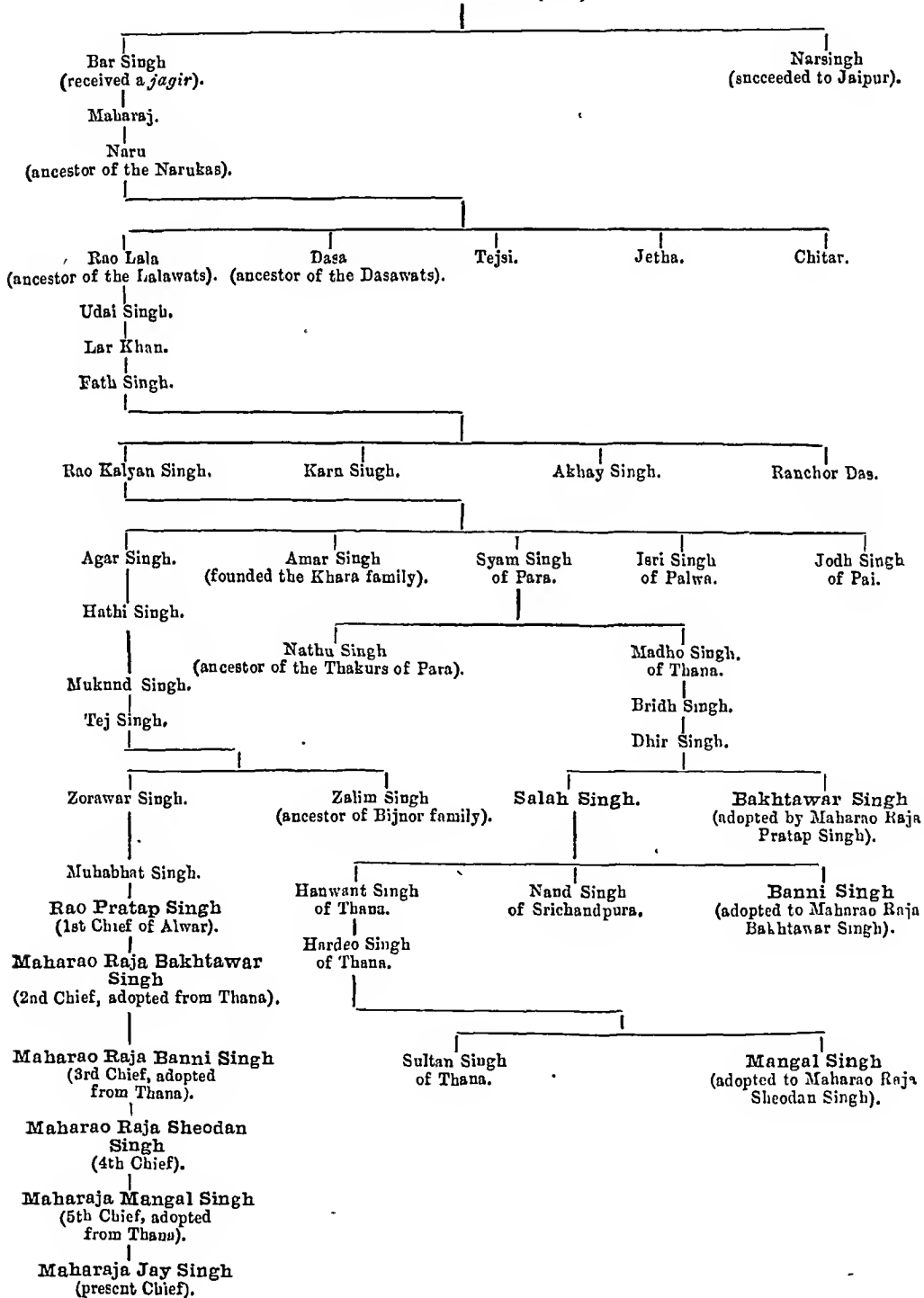
His Highness Maharaja Sawai Jay Singh Bahadur of Alwar was born in 1882 and succeeded his father, the late Maharaja Mangal Singh, G.C.S.I., on the 23rd May 1892. The

The Chief.

Chief, whose mother was a daughter of the late Maharaja Bherun Singh of Ratlam, is a Lalawat Naruka Rajput of the Kachhwaha clan, and is a descendant of the ruling house of Jaipur. The only near relatives of the Maharaja on the paternal side are connected with the family of Thana, from which the late Chief was adopted by his predecessor. They are his cousin, Thakur Ram Singh of Thana, the son of his late uncle Thakur Surtan Singh, and another cousin Thakur Ganga Singh of Srichandpur.

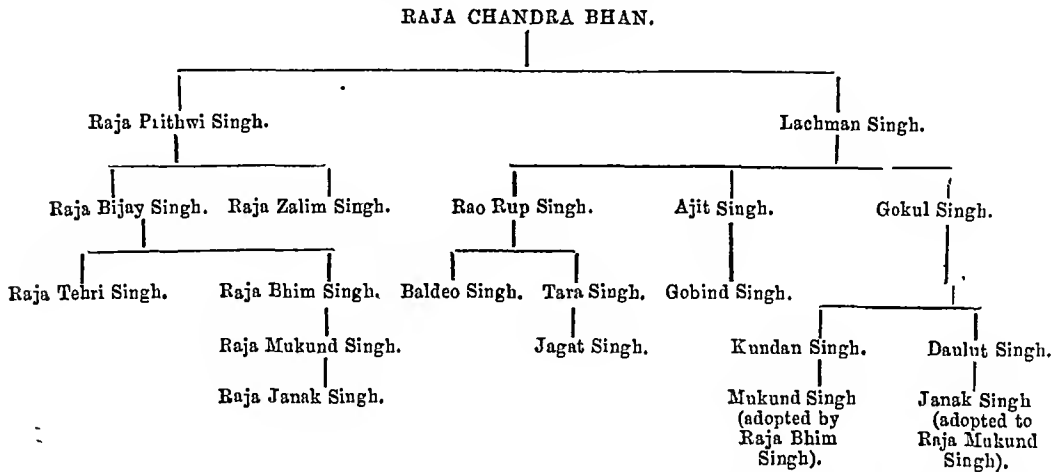
Through the marriages of the late Chief, His Highness is connected with the Rahtor family of Kishangarh and the Jarecha family of Jamnagar. The Rahtor family of Bikaner, the Jhala family of Jhalawar, and the Sesodia family of Shahpura are also connected by marriage. His Highness was married on 8th December 1897 to the daughter of His Highness the late Maharaja Sardul Singh, G.C.I.E., of Kishangarh. The pedigree below shows the descent of the ruling family from the Jaipur house:—

RAJA UDAI KARN (1367).



conditions, with effect from the 16th October 1896. Raja Janak Singh is a son of Daulat Singh and a cousin to the late Raja, to whom he was adopted in 1886 by the widows of Rajas Prithwi Singh and Isri Singh. He was born on 3rd November 1875 and was educated at the Mayo College which he left in autumn 1895. The Raja married (1894) a daughter of Thakur Surfan Singh of Thana, the uncle of the present, and brother of the late Maharaja of Alwar. This Rani died on May 27th, 1898, leaving two sons named Debi Singh (born in January 1895) and Madho Singh (born in December 1896). He first married the daughter of Thakur Pirthi Singh, *Jagirdar* of Tasing in Alwar in July 1899. He has no male relation in the family of his adoption, his nearest blood relatives being of the family of his late uncle Kundan Singh, who died on July 18th, 1896.

These relationships are explained by the following table :—



(2) Thakur Ram Singh of Thana, a Naruka Kachhwaha Rajput, is a cousin of the Chief of Alwar, and is the head of the house from which the Chiefs have, on failure of natural heirs, been adopted. The estate, which consists of five villages, lies in the Rajgarh Tahsil. It was formerly valued at Rs. 5,000 a year, but owing to the construction of new bunds and wells the revenue has increased and is now estimated at over Rs. 10,000. It keeps up twenty-one horses, but they are exempt from Raj service. Thakur Ram Singh was born in September 1878. On the death of his father, Thakur Surtan Singh, he succeeded to the *jagir* in July 1897.

(3) Thakur Gunga Singh of Srichandpura is a Rajput of the Lalawat Naruka clan. The estate, which consists of two villages, Srichandpura and Manpur, is valued at Rs. 4,000 a year and keeps up four horses for the use of the Darbar. These two villages were conferred by Maharao Raja Bani Singh on his elder real brother, Nand Singh, the grandfather of Gunga Singh. The latter succeeded his father Baldeo Singh, who was, in 1874, a Member of the Council of Administration, which had been formed in 1870 on Maharao Raja Sheodan Singh being removed from power. Gunga Singh, who was born in July 1868, is at present *Bukshi Fauj*. He has one son named Karam Singh (born in June 1893).

(4) Thakur Karan Singh (born in November 1881) of Garhi, a Dasawat Naruka Rajput of the Kachhwaha clan, holds an estate, consisting of eight villages of the annual value of Rs. 16,000, situated in the south-east of the State and maintaining twenty horsemen for the service of the Darbar. This family, like that of Jaoli, springs from Dasa, the second son of Naru. Abhay Ram and Anand Ram, descendants of Dasa in the sixth generation, are said to have left Jaipur for Delhi in search of adventures. On their way they received an invitation to stay and protect the inhabitants of Maujpur, a town now in the Lachmangarh Tahsil, from the plundering Meos. Accepting this proposal, they built the fort of Garhi in the neighbouring hills and established their family there. Karan Singh succeeded his father Rai Bahadur Thakur Mangol Singh, C.I.E., who died on the 2nd July 1901. Karan Singh has one brother Kesi Singh (born in November 1883.) The family is closely connected with that of Garh in Jaipur.

(5) Rao Gopal Singh of Pai or Nizamnagar is a Naruka Kachhwaha Rajput of the Lalawat branch. The family of Pai, which was originally settled in Jaipur, immigrated into Alwar in 1775 after Maharao Raja Partap Singh had established his independence, and received the estate of Nizamnagar, which is the present seat of the house. The estate consists of two villages of the value of Rs. 2,000, and keeps up four horsemen for the service of the Darbar. Rao Gopal Singh succeeded his uncle, Rao Kayam Singh, by adoption in 1851. He was born in March 1846. He has three sons, Narain Singh (born in December 1883), Odai Singh (born in January 1890) and Bejai Singh (born in February 1892).

(6) Thakur Duryan Singh of Jaoli is a Dasawat Naruka Rajput of the Kachhwaha clan, that is, belonging to the same clan as the Chief, but not of the same family (*vide* paragraph 4

supra). He was born in October 1866, and was educated at the Mayo College. His estate, which consists of Jaoli, Baroli, Doollepura and Pirthipura, lies 24 miles to the east of Alwar and is well managed, the income derived from it being about Rs. 12,000 per annum. Jaoli holds the title of "Seh Hazari" (Commandant three thousand) since the time of the Moghal Empire.

It is exempted from furnishing any horseman for State service. Thakur Durjan Singh has, on several occasions, held charge of the staff office of the Alwar Imperial Service Troops, in which till recently he held an honorary Captaincy. He has two sons, named Kulian Singh (born in September 1892) and Kishen Singh (born in October 1894). He was appointed a Member of the State Council in March 1897.

(7) Thakur Madho Singh of Bijwar is also a member of the Lalawat family of the Naruka sub-clan. He holds an estate in the Bijwar.

south of Alwar consisting of four villages, which yield a revenue of Rs. 3,000, and keeps up ten horsemen for the service of the Darbar. Thakur Madho Singh is the son of Ranjit Singh of Jamalpur, a cousin of the late Thakur Lakdir Singh of Bijwar, by whom he was adopted and on whose death in 1876 he succeeded to the estate. He was born in December 1863. His estate is well managed. He was educated at the Mayo College, Ajmer, and is a member of the Alwar branch of the Walterkrit Rajputra Hitkarini Sabha. He was appointed a Member of Council in July 1900. Thakur Lakdir Singh was a man of great influence in Alwar, and was a Member of the Council which governed the State from 1860 to 1863 during the minority of Maharao Raja Sheodan Singh. After the Chief was vested with governing powers, Thakur Lakdir Singh resided at Jaipur and Ajmer. In 1866 he invaded Alwar, but was unsuccessful and had to retire. In 1870 a further insurrection took place, which ended in the formation of a Council of which Thakur Lakdir Singh was a member, under the presidency of the Political Agent. In 1876, after the death of Maharao Raja Sheodan Singh, Thakur Lakdir Singh was an unsuccessful candidate for the *gadi*, and, having refused to present the customary *nazar* to the newly-selected Chief, was banished to Ajmer, where he died. Thakur Madho Singh's nearest male relatives are his cousins Gyan Singh, Raghunath Singh and Gobind Singh, the most closely allied family being that of Jamalpur in Alwar.

(8) Thakur Dhulat Singh of Khora, a Lalawat Naruka, holds an estate of six villages in the south-east of Alwar, of the annual value of Rs. 10,000, and keeps up twenty-seven horsemen for

the service of the Darbar. Thakur Daulat Singh, who was born in 1865, succeeded to the estate in 1876 by adoption on the death of his uncle Thakur Mahtab Singh. The Thakur was educated at the Mayo College. His estate is well managed. His nearest relations are his cousins, Devi Singh and Zorawar Singh.

None of the nobles of Alwar hold any estates in British territory.

The only official in the State who calls for individual notice is—

Munshi Balmakhand Dass, an Extra Assistant Commissioner and Treasury Officer, Ajmer, who was transferred to the Council on the 1st January 1893, on account of his mature and varied experience of revenue, judicial and treasury work, coupled with an excellent knowledge of English, Hindi and Urdu. The result has thoroughly justified this selection. The title of Rao Bahadur was conferred on him by the Government of India in May 1895 and of Dewan Bahadur in 1899, in recognition of his loyal and valuable services as a Member of the State Council.

CHAPTER VII.

JHALA STATE.

JHALAWAR.

The territory now comprised in the Jhalawar State was formerly a part of the dominions of the Chief of Kota. The ruling family belongs to the Jhala clan, of the early history of which little is known, but which has long been settled in Kathiawar. Though, according to Colonel Tod, neither of the Solar, Lunar, nor Agnikul race, the Jhala clan claims Solar origin for itself and has always been recognised as one of the Rajput tribes. The following account of the origin of the dynasty of Jhalawar is given in Lieutenant-Colonel Abbott's Gazetteer of the State:—"About A.D. 1709, one Bhan Singh, a second son of the head of the clan, left his country with his son and a small company in order to try his fortune at Delhi. At Kota, Bhan Singh left his son, Madho Singh, with the Maharao Bhim Singh, who then ruled the Kota State, and went on himself to Delhi where all trace of him ends. His son Madho Singh won for himself the good grace of the Kota Chief who married his eldest son to Madho Singh's sister, granted him a *jagir* of Rs. 12,000 and gave him the post of *Faujdar*, a position which implied control of the army, the forts, and the palaces. His connection with the Chief gained him the familiar title of *Mama*, which continued for some time in the family. Madho Singh was succeeded in the office of *Faujdar* by his son Madan Singh. Madan Singh had two sons, Himmat Singh and Prithwi Singh, the former of whom is said to have been famous for personal strength and prowess. Prithwi Singh had two sons, Sheo

Singh and Zalim Singh, the latter of whom being adopted by his uncle Himmat Singh, and surviving his father, succeeded to his grandfather's position in the Kota State at the age of eighteen. Three years later, Zalim Singh was the means of securing a victory for the Kota troops against those of the Raja of Amher (Jaipur). Zalim Singh afterwards fell into disfavour with the Maharao owing to his rivalry in the case of a favourite woman whom the Maharao wished to place in his *zanana*.

"Leaving Kota, Zalim Singh did good service at Udaipur. Returning to Kota when Maharao Guman Singh was on his death-bed, the Chief sent for him and committed his son Ummed Singh and the country into his charge The extraordinary ability with which Zalim Singh exercised his power induced Ummed Singh, after his minority ended, to leave all authority in the Regent's hands. Raj Rana Zalim Singh at last became, for all serious political affairs, the acknowledged ruler of the State: and when the British Government guaranteed by treaty with the Chief the integrity of Kota in 1817, a supplementary article was added in 1818 which guaranteed to Zalim Singh and his heirs the authority and privileges he then possessed. This arrangement soon produced troubles—first upon the death of Ummed Singh, his successor naturally desiring to recover authority, and again on the death of Zalim Singh in 1824. After much discussion and some armed contests, the hereditary Chief of Kota and the heir of Zalim Singh were induced by the British Government to agree to a compromise whereby certain districts of the Kota State were separated off and ceded to the heirs of Zalim Singh, whereby the new State of Jhalrapatan was constituted under the hereditary rule of that family The name of Jhalawar was selected for his new State by the first Chief. The arrangements were ratified by two treaties in 1838, from which year the State dates its creation By the treaties the new Chief acknowledged British supremacy, agreed to supply troops according to his means and to pay an annual tribute of Rs. 80,000. He received the title of Maharaj Rana, was granted a salute of fifteen guns, and placed on the same footing as other Chiefs of Rajputana. When these affairs had been settled, Maharaj Rana Madan Singh, grandson of the great Kota administrator Zalim Singh, left Kota attended by a following of ten thousand persons, inclusive of *Jagirdars* and officials, for the Dhanwara Chhaoni, a permanent camp situated between the city of Jhalrapatan and the Kota fort of Gagraon . . . This Chhaoni thenceforth became the head-quarters of the State, and is still the place of residence of the Chief,

"Madan Singh died in 1845 and was succeeded by his son Prithwi Singh at the early age of fifteen, a Regency Council composed of the old officials of the State being appointed to conduct affairs. In 1857-58 this Chief rendered good service to Government by affording protection to British officers; in revenge the mutineers from Nimach caused the State to suffer, which led to the Government tribute for that year being remitted

"Maharaj Rana Prithwi Singh was of a most good-natured and happy disposition which made him very popular with his subjects; but his good nature and easy-going disposition were taken advantage of by the several *Kamdars* (Ministers) who, in turn, had the control of the State purse; the result was that the State became heavily involved. . . .

"In 1873 Maharaj Rana Prithwi Singh adopted a nice boy, by name Bakht Singh, from a Jhala family, resident in Wadwan of Kathiawar, related to him in the ninth degree In August 1875, Maharaj Rana Prithwi Singh died after a painful illness, much regretted by all. On the 1st June 1876 Kunwar Bakht Singh was acknowledged as the successor to the late Maharaj Rana. On the 24th June the youthful Bakht Singh, who was in his eleventh year, was formally installed, on which he took the name of Zalim Singh, in accordance with the former family custom, which enjoined that only the four names of Zalim Singh, Madho Singh, Madan Singh, and Prithwi Singh are to be assumed by the rulers of this house."

In July 1894 Maharaj Rana Zalim Singh was granted full powers of administration. Having, however, failed to govern his State to the satisfaction of the Government of India, he was deposed on the 2nd of March 1896. He now lives at Benares, and is in receipt of an allowance of Rs. 30,000 a year, one-third of which is paid by Jhalawar, and two-thirds by Kota.

Consequent on the deposition of the *ex*-Maharaj Rana Zalim Singh, the Government of India ordered that the territories (or their equivalent) which were made over by Kota in 1838 to form the principality of Jhalawar should be restored to Kota; while the remaining districts should be utilised for the formation of a New State to provide for the family to which the first Raj Rana Zalim Singh belonged; and Kanwar Bhawani Singh, son of Thakur Chatar Sal, of Fatehpur of the said family, was, on the 10th of November 1897, nominated as Chief of the New State.

On the 1st of January 1899, the transfer was effected, on which date the new State of Jhalawar came into existence. This State consists of the Chaumahla, the Patan Tahsil, and the southern portion of the Tahsil of Suket. On the 6th of February 1899 His Highness Raj Rana Bhawani Singh was installed on the *gadi* by the Agent to the Governor-General, and was at the same time invested with full powers of administration.

His Highness Raj Rana Bhawani Singh was born on the 4th of September 1874, and was educated in Ajmer at the Mayo College. He was married in 1894 to the daughter of the late Maharaja Duijan Sal of Kherli in Kota.

The Chief.

His Highness has a son named Maharaj Kumar Rajendra Singh who was born on 15th July 1900.

The leading men of Jhalawar fall into four classes—(1) and (2) Nobles and Officials whose ancestors came from Kota with Maharaj Rana Madan Singh, or who held their States previously to 1838, and (3) and (4) Nobles and Officials whose connection with Jhalawar is of later date than the founding of the State (the old State of Jhalawar).

Leading men.

Of the nobles who belong to class I, the Raoji of Kundla is the only *Jagirdar* whose *jagir* is older than the founding of the State. He is a Jhala Rajput of the Halwad family in Kathiawar. Of the Nobles whose ancestors accompanied Maharaj Rana Madan Singh, the two, who belong to the Chief's clan, are the Thakurs of Urmal (formerly of Fatehpur), and of Kalmandi (formerly of Kolah). The former is the father of His Highness, and the latter is very nearly related to the family. The other nobles entitled to a place in this class are Maharaja Balbhadra Singh of Kanwara (formerly of Pipakheri), a Hara, the Thakurs of Kotra (formerly of Dhanoda) and of Bhilwari (formerly of Bamori), Rajawat Kachhwahas. The nobles who fall within the third class are the Thakurs of Mangal and Rilaiti (formerly of Gajwara). All these are *Tazimi* Sirdars; but with the exception of the Rao of Kundla, and Kaka Chatar Sal, father of His Highness, none of them enjoy large incomes. All the nobles pay a money tribute to the Darbar except the Rao of Kundla. The hereditary and some of the non-hereditary officials hold *jagirs*. None of the Jhalawar nobles have estates in British Territory.

Among the leading persons of the State the following call for special notice:—

- (1) Rao Sawai Singh of Kundla, a Jhala Rajput of the Halwad family in Kathiawar, holds the only *jagir* older than the founding of the State. The grant was made by the Emperor

Kundla.

Jahangir to Har Das, an ancestor of the present holder. Har Das was at that time settled in Mewar, whither his ancestors had come from Kathiawar, and in return for services rendered in rescuing from the Bhils a Zenana favourite of the Emperor, he received the title of Rao and a grant of the four parganas known as the Chaumahala. These parganas were subsequently wrested from Har Das's descendants by the Puar (Parmars) of Dhar, who left with the owners only the ten villages held by the present Rao. The remainder of the Chaumahala was afterwards ceded to Kota by Holkar at the instance of the British Government, and thus eventually became a portion of the Jhalawar State. The present value of the Kundla estate which is held free of revenue is estimated at Rs. 10,000. The estate is well managed and unencumbered. Rao Sawai Singh, who succeeded his father in 1873, devotes himself to looking after his property, and is not employed in any public capacity. He has one son, Kunwar Partap Singh, who was born in 1878 and educated at the Mayo College. Rao Sawai Singh has also a brother named Thakur Sardul Singh, who is about 44 years of age.

- (2) Kaka Chatar Sal of Urmal is father of His Highness. He is descended from Madho Singh, Faujdar of Kota, great-grandfather of the first Raj Rana Zalim Singh. His grand-

Urmal.

father, Thakur Benai Singh, came to Jhalawar with Maharaj Rana Madan Singh and received a *jagir* of two villages of the annual value of Rs. 1,325, paying Rs. 140 to the State every second year. These villages being situated in the territories transferred to Kota, Kaka Chatar Sal was, on the formation of the New State, given three other villages instead, of the annual value of Rs. 2,300. He was granted an additional *jagir* of three villages, in lieu of which he now receives a cash allowance of Rs. 500 a month. He was born in 1858 (1st Jeth Sudi 10 St. 1915).

- (3) Kaka Arjun Singh of Kalmandi, a Jhala Rajput, is descended from Madho Singh, great-grandfather of the first Raj Rana Zalim Singh. His great-grandfather, Gobind Singh, accompanied Maharaj Rana Madan Singh to Jhalawar, and received a *jagir* of one village (Kola) of the annual value of Rs. 1,501, out of which he had to pay Rs. 144 to the State every second year as tribute. The *jagir* village being situated in the territories transferred to Kota, he was, at the time of the formation of the New State, given two other villages instead, of the annual value of Rs. 2,092. He pays Rs. 25 to the State as tribute. He is officer of the *paigah* (irregular horses), and receives pay and cash allowance amounting altogether to Rs. 100 a month in addition to his *jagir*. He is of middle age and has no son. His younger brother, Thakur Chatarbhuj Singh, who was born in 1884, was educated at the Mayo College, Ajmer.

Kalmandi.

(4) Maharaja Balbhadar Singh of Kanwara, a descendant of the Bundi family of Karwar, is a Hara Rajput. He held the village of Pipakheri in *jagir*, valued at Rs. 2,222 a year, and paid Rs. 222 to the Darbar as tribute every second year. This village was conferred on the Maharaja's grandfather Chatar Singh who accompanied Maharaj Rana Madan Singh to Jhalawar. Maharaj Chatar Singh had rendered service to the Maharaj Rana before this time by bringing about a marriage between him and the lady of the Chandrawat house of Rampura in Holkar's territory who afterwards became the mother of Maharaj Rana Prithwi Singh. The village being situated in the tracts restored to Kota he was, on the formation of the New State, granted two other villages in its place, of the annual value of Rs. 2,899. He pays Rs. 40 per annum tribute. Maharaja Balbhadar Singh, who was born in 1865, succeeded his father in 1870. When the Maharaj Rana was given charge of his State, Maharaja Balbhadar Singh was nominated a Member of the Council, and the Chief, on being deprived of his powers requested

Kanwara.

that he might be appointed as the intermediary between himself and the Political Superintendent. In the performance of the duties thus devolving on him he displayed unvarying good temper and tact and established his reputation as an affable, courteous Rajput noble. He made himself well acquainted with the administration of the State, and his efficiency as a Member of the State Council increased year by year. He now holds the appointment of *Attaché* to the Agent to the Governor-General in Rajputana. The nearest relatives of the Maharaja, who has no son, are his uncle Maharaj Baldeo Singh, a *Jagirdar* of Kota, and his cousins Maharaj Nathu Singh and Maharaj Nirbhair Singh, *Jagirdars* of Bundi.

- (5) **Thakur Takht Singh of Kotra**, is a Kachhwaha Rajput of the Rajawat clan, belonging to the family of Barwara in Jaipur.

Kotra. Thakur Ranjit Singh, the great grandfather of the present Thakur, migrated to Kota, where he received a *jagir*, his ancestor Rao Ratan Singh having married an aunt of Raj Rana Zalim Singh. On the foundation of the Jhalawar State, he accompanied Maharaj Rana Madan Singh, and received a *jagir* of five villages of the annual value of Rs. 4,261. The estate furnished eight *sowars* and five footmen for the service of the Darbar. On the formation of the New State of Jhalawar, the Thakur was given two villages, Kotra and Sankla, of the annual value of Rs. 3,337 in *jagir* instead of his *jagir* of five villages which were situated in the territories transferred to Kota. At the same time the Thakur was exempted from furnishing *sowars* and footmen for the service of the Darbar. A yearly tribute of Rs. 50 is payable by the Thakur to the Darbar. Thakur Takht Singh, who was born in 1871, was educated at the Mayo College, Ajmer. He succeeded his father in 1878.

- (6) **Thakur Man Singh of Bhilwari** is also a Kachhwaha Rajput of the Rajawat clan belonging to the Jhalai family of Jaipur. His

Bhilwari. grandfather, Thakur Gopal Singh, received a *jagir* in Kota and subsequently accompanied Maharaj Rana Madan Singh to Jhalawar, where he was granted a *jagir* consisting of one village of the annual value of Rs. 4,413, out of which a biennial tribute of Rs. 326 was payable to the Darbar. The *Jagirdar* also furnished eight *sowars* and sixteen footmen for the service of the Darbar. This *jagir* village being situated in the territories transferred to Kota, the *Jagirdar* was, on the formation of the New State of Jhalawar, granted two villages Bhilwari and Amillia instead, of the annual value of Rs. 3,695, paying a tribute of Rs. 50 a year to the Darbar. At the same time the Thakur has been exempted from furnishing the *sowars* and footmen for the service of the Darbar. A sister of the late Thakur Guman Singh (father of Thakur Man Singh), was married to Maharaj Rana Madan Singh. The present Thakur, who was born in 1861, succeeded his father Guman Singh in 1886. Before that time he was employed for a time in the State Police. He has a son, Kuar Ganga Singh, who was born in 1882, and was educated at the Mayo College, Ajmer.

- (7) **Thakur Sheodan Singh of Rilaiti** is a Bhati Rajput of the ruling family of Jaisalmer. The cousin of his father, Thakur Anar

Rilaiti. Singh, was married to the Maharaj Rana Madan Singh, and Thakur Anar Singh himself, on coming to Jhalawar in the time of Maharaj Rana Prithi Singh, received a *jagir* of one village (Gajwara), valued at Rs. 943 and paying a biennial tribute of Rs. 68-11-0 to the Darbar. His father, Thakur Anar Singh, died in 1895, and Sheodan Singh succeeded him in 1897. This village being situated in the territories transferred to Kota, the Thakur on the formation of the New State, was granted another village Rilaiti, instead of the annual value of Rs. 867, and paying a yearly tribute of Rs. 5 to the Darbar. Thakur Sheodan Singh, who was at one time a Member of the State Council of Jhalawar, lives at Jaisalmer, where he holds a *jagir* of the value of Rs. 1,000 and is in receipt of an allowance from that State. He was born in 1857.

- (8) **Thakur Abhai Singh of Mangal** is a Kachhwaha Rajput of the Rajawat clan, and belongs to the Muhabbatpura family in Jaipur. His

Mangal. grandfather, Thakur Karan Singh, who came to Jhalawar in the time of Maharaj Rana Prithi Singh, drew a small allowance from the State, and subsequently received the honour of the *tazim* and a *jagir* of one village of the value of Rs. 1,193. Rupees 104 are paid biennially as tribute to the Darbar. Thakur Abhai Singh, who was born in 1868, succeeded his father in 1892. He was educated at the Mayo College. His brother Thakur Phul Singh, who was born in 1883, was also educated there.

Of the officials, the following deserve to be noticed :—

- (1) **Munshi Kali Charan**, a Kayasth, whose father came to Jhalawar in 1838, holds an estate of one village of the annual value of Rs. 2,237.

Officials. This village was granted to him in lieu of the former *jagir* of two villages which were situated in the territories transferred to Kota. In the time of Maharaj Rana Prithi Singh, Munshi Kali Charan was Persian Mir Munshi to the State. For sixteen years he served as a Judge of the Appellate Court, and since his retirement in 1893, he has remained in charge of the State Munshikhana. He was also a Member of the Walterkrit Rajputra Hitkarni Sabha. Now he is very old, and does no State business. Of his two sons, the elder, Saligram, who was the Naib Hakim of the Civil Court, was transferred to the pension list at the time of the formation of the New State. Kali Charan was born in 1831.

- (2) **Seth Narsingh Das**, a Mabajan by caste, was head of the Military Department (*Bakshi Fauj*). His grandfather Seth Kauhaya Ram came from Kota and received a *jagir* of Rs. 5,000, which on his death was reduced to Rs. 2,000. Seth Narsingh Das, who was born in 1862, is a man of good repute and quiet manner. He has no family.

(3) Purohit Chatur Bhuj is a Gujarati Brahman whose grandfather Jiwan Ram accompanied Maharaj Rana Madan Singh from Kota as family priest and received a *jagir* of the value of Rs. 7,000. The estate, which is in debt, is managed by the Darbar during the minority of the present holder. He was born in 1884.

(4) Dhabai Har Lal, a Gujar, and a distant foster connection of the ruling family, was assistant guardian to the *ex-Chief* when at the Mayo College, and in that capacity did good service. He was appointed a Judge of the Appellate Court in 1884, but resigned after being made a Member of the Council in 1887. Though illiterate, Dhabai Har Lal is a man of capacity, whose acquaintance with the administration and knowledge of Rajput customs made him a useful Member of the Council. He was born in 1851. The *jagir* in the possession of family was confiscated on the death of Dhabai Har Lal's adoptive father, but was restored to Har Lal on the adoption being proved. It consisted of one village of the value of Rs. 1,234. This being situated in the tracts restored to Kota, he was granted another village of the annual value of Rs. 1,233, and paying a yearly tribute of Rs. 25. Dhabai Har Lal has one son, aged nineteen years.

JAT STATES.

[Bharatpur—Dholpur.]

As mentioned in the introductory chapter, Bharatpur is governed by the descendant of the landholders, who raised themselves to the rank and power of territorial chiefs during the confusion of the eighteenth century; while Dholpur is the territory remaining with a family that had gained distinction earlier, though it first acquired political independence in the same century and under similar circumstances.

The founder of the present ruling house of Bharatpur was a Jat landholder, by name

Bharatpur.

Churaman, who built two petty forts in the villages of Thun and Sinsini, a little south of Dig, from which he organised marauding expeditions and even ventured to harass the rear of the Imperial army on the occasion of Aurangzeb's expedition into the Dakhan. Churaman was overcome by the Chief of Amber, Jay Singh, expelled from his territories, and succeeded by his younger brother Thakur Badan Singh, whose eldest son, Suraj Mal, subsequently assumed the title of Raja, and established himself at Bharatpur where he built a large fort. Suraj Mal took a large part in the numerous struggles of the first-half of the seventeenth century between the Mughals, the Mahrattas, the Rohillas, and Duranis, and extended his borders until they included Agra. He was killed in 1763 by the Mughals, while attempting to force a claim which he had put forward to the *faujdar* (military governorship) of Farukhnagar. His successor, Jawahir Singh, was defeated in a quarrel with the Raja of Jaipur, and was murdered at Agra in 1768. On his death, his next brother Ratan Singh occupied the *gadi*, but was also murdered after a very short reign. During the next two reigns, those of Nawal Singh and Ranjit Singh, the third and fourth sons of Suraj Mal, Najaf Khan stripped the Jats of all their possessions, except the fort of Bharatpur and territory yielding an annual income of nine lakhs of rupees, which at the intercession of Suraj Mal's widow he allowed Ranjit Singh to keep. On the death of Najaf Khan in 1782, Sindia seized all Ranjit Singh's territories including Bharatpur, but again the widow interceded in her son's behalf, and Sindia restored eleven districts yielding ten lakhs of rupees, to which three more yielding four lakhs, were subsequently added for services rendered to General Perron.

These fourteen parganas now constitute the State of Bharatpur. Subsequently Ranjit Singh entered into an alliance with Sindia against Jaipur, and thereby obtained the cession of Dig, which had been held by the Emperor since its capture by Najaf Khan, and eleven parganas yielding a revenue of ten lakhs of rupees.

On the termination of the Mahratta war in 1803 the British Government concluded a treaty with Ranjit Singh, who, with 5,000 horse, had joined General Lake at Agra, and thereby contributed to Sindia's defeat. In return for this service he received a grant of the districts of Kishangarh, Katawa, Riwari, Gokal and Sahar. Immediately afterwards, however, while in alliance by treaty with the English Government, he entered into secret correspondence with Jaswant Rao Holkar, who was then at war with the English Government, and offered him every kind of encouragement and support. At the battle of Dig in November 1804 the Bharatpur troops, which the Raja declared to have been assembled for co-operation with the British, were actually engaged against them, and the fort opened a damaging fire upon the British army. After the battle Holkar took refuge in this stronghold, and all the resources of the State were openly employed on his side. A siege thereupon took place. Ranjit Singh, after a memorable defence, in the course of which he repelled four assaults with a loss to the besiegers of 3,000 men, finally made overtures for peace. These were accepted on the 4th May 1805, and a new treaty was concluded, by which he agreed to pay an indemnity of twenty lakhs of rupees, seven of which were subsequently remitted, and was guaranteed in possession the territories which he had held previously to the accession of the British Government. The parganas granted to him in 1803 were resumed. Maharaja Ranjit Singh died in 1805, leaving four sons, Randhir, Baldeo, Hardeo and Lachman. The eldest Randhir, who succeeded him, died in 1823, and was followed by his brother Baldeo, who died after a reign of about eighteen months. His son, Balwaut, then six years of age, was recognised by the Government, but was opposed and imprisoned by his cousin Durjan Sal. A force which started from Delhi in support of the rightful heir was recalled by the order of the Government, who did not consider

that its recognition of him involved any obligation to support him by arms. Eventually, however, when the disputed succession threatened a protracted war, it was determined to depose the usurper and reinstate Balwant Singh. After a siege that extended over nearly six weeks, Bharatpur was stormed by Lord Combermere on the 18th January 1826 and was dismantled. Durjan Sal was imprisoned at Allahabad, and Balwant Singh was restored to the *gadi* under the regency of his mother and the superintendence of a Political Agent. The Rani was removed in 1826, and the ministers were formed into a Council of Regency. In 1835 Balwant Singh was put in charge of the administration and ruled till his death in 1853, when he was succeeded by his infant son, Maharaja Jaswant Singh.

During the days of the Mutiny the Bharatpur State rendered loyal assistance to the British Government, Bharatpur troops attacking and dispersing the mutineers whenever they appeared in the vicinity of the Bharatpur State. The State was administered by a Council under the Political Agent till 1872, when the Maharaja was invested with full governing powers.

In 1879 the manufacture of salt was prohibited, the State receiving a sum of Rs. 1,50,500 annually as compensation for consequent loss of revenue.

Maharaja Jaswant Singh died on 12th December 1893, and was succeeded by his eldest son Ram Singh, from whom, however, owing to his intemperate habits, governing powers were taken in 1895.

In June 1900 Ram Singh shot his servant dead and was deposed from the *gadi*, his infant son Kishen Singh being proclaimed Maharaja in August 1900. The State is administered, as in Jaswant Singh's infancy, by a Council under the general control of the Political Agent of the Eastern States, Rajputana, who has his head-quarters at Bharatpur.

The family of the ruling Chief of Dholpur belongs to the Deswali tribe of Jats and traces

Dholpur.

its pedigree to Jet Singh, who is said to have acquired lands to the south of Alwar in the eleventh century. From Bamroli, the adopted home of one of his descendants, the family takes the name of Bamraulia. Driven from Bamroli about the year 1367 by the Subahdar of Agra, the head of the house next migrated to Gwalior, where he took the part of the Rajputs in their struggles against the Emperor's officers. Eventually the Bamraulia Jats settled near Gohad, and in 1505 Surjan Deo received from Raja Man Singh Tunwar of Gwalior a grant of the territory of Gohad, and assumed the title of Rana. After the overthrow of the Mahrattas at Panipat, Rana Bhim Singh in 1761 possessed himself of the fortress of Gwalior, but lost it six years later. In order to bar the encroachments of the Mahrattas, a treaty was made with the Rana in 1779 by the British Government under Warren Hastings, and the joint forces of the contracting parties re-took Gwalior. In the treaty of the 13th October 1781 between the British Government and Sindia, it was stipulated that, so long as the Maharaj Rana should observe his treaty with the English, Sindia should not interfere with his territories. In consequence, however, of the treachery of the Maharaj Rana, this stipulation was withdrawn, and Sindia re-took Gohad and Gwalior. In 1803 Ambaji Inglia, Governor of Gohad, seeing the rapid success of the British arms, threw off his allegiance to Sindia, joined the forces of the British Government, and agreed to surrender the fort of Gwalior and certain districts, which the Government intended to confer on the Rana of Gohad. The districts ceded by Ambaji Inglia, with the exception of the fort and city of Gwalior, were made over to Rana Kirat Singh, who had succeeded to the *gadi* of Gohad in 1804. The possession of Gohad led to disputes between the British and Sindia, and in 1805 the Governor-General transferred Gwalior and Gohad to Sindia, and conferred Sindia's parganas of Dholpur, Bari and Rajakhara on Maharaj Rana Kirat Singh. These parganas now form the Dholpur State. They had undergone constant changes of masters, had been seized by Raja Suraj Mal of Bharatpur after the battle of Panipat, wrested from him by Najaf Khau in 1775, taken by Sindia in 1782, occupied by the British in 1803, and made over again to Sindia in the same year.

Maharaj Rana Kirat Singh died in 1836 and was followed by his son Maharaj Rana Bhagwant Singh, on whose death in 1870 his grandson, the late Chief, Maharaj Rana Nihal Singh, succeeded to the *gadi*.

Nihal Singh died on 20th July 1901, and was succeeded by his eldest son, Ram Singh.

BHARATPUR.

His Highness Sri Brijendra Sawai Kishen Singh Bahadur, Bahadur Jang, Maharaja of Bharatpur, was born on the 4th October 1899, and succeeded to the Chiefship on the 27th August 1900.

The Chief.

During the minority of the Maharaja the State is managed by the Political Agent and a Council of Regency. The Chief is a Hindu Jat of the Sinsinwar family, the origin of which has been noticed above. His Highness is the son of Maharani Girraj Kuar, the second wife of the Maharaja Ram Singh, lately deposed.

The next nearest relative of the Chief is his uncle Rao Raja Raghunath Singh, brother of Ram Singh. Raghunath Singh was born on the 7th January 1887. He is being educated at the Mayo College, Ajmer. His Highness's other relatives are Rao Raja Jngal Saran Singh son of Ajeet Singh lately deceased, born on 7th March 1879, the Thakurs of the so-called Solah Kotris:—Partap Singh, Ram Phal, Akhay Singh, Khaman Singh, Man Singh, Sultan

Singh, Jodh Singh, Sobharam, Devi Singh, Med Singh, Bhawani Singh, Dalel Singh, Ram Kishen, Khushal Singh, Lal Singh, Balram Singh and Bir Narain, and Raja Samandar Singh of Weir who was born on 22nd November 1879. He is a descendant of Partap Singh, son of Badan Singh, and brother of Suraj Mull, the founder of Bharatpur. He is at present a cadet in the Imperial Cadet Corps, Ajmer. In case of failure of direct heirs, the Maharaja would have to adopt from among the Thakurs, a fact which constitutes their only title to distinction. They hold some twenty-seven villages, with an aggregate income of about Rs. 40,000; some of them are *sipahis* and *sowars* in the State regiments. The Maharaja is related by kinship to the Chiefs of Nabha and Jhind and other Jat families and is connected with the Maharaja of Patiala.

Leading men.

Of the leading families in Bharatpur the following representatives call for notice:—

Faujdar Devi Singh, Jat Jagirdar of Ballahgarh. This noble is the premier Sardar of Bharatpur, and represents one of its oldest families, Ballahgarh having been bestowed on the ancestor of the present holder by the Chief of Jaipur before Bharatpur came into existence as a State. The *Jagir* contains fourteen villages near the Jaipur frontier. Ballahgarh is a thriving town. Faujdar Devi Singh is the second son of Faujdar Gordhan Singh and succeeded to the estate on the death of his brother, the late holder, Faujdar Daulat Singh. He is a Member of the Bharatpur State Council.

Dhan Bakshi Raghubir Singh Gujar, who is the most notable of the Bakshi family that has for some generations held high office in the State. His grandfather, Dhan Gulab Singh, had charge of the infant Maharaja Jaswant Singh, and was also an important member of the administration under the Political Agents of that time. Gulab Singh had three sons, Gangaram, Sanwal Singh and Gobind Singh. Gangaram had several sons, of whom Raghubir Singh is the eldest. Bakshi Raghubir Singh is a Member of the State Council and is also foster father (as the name Dhao implies) of His Highness Maharaja Kishen Singh, the present infant Chief.

The family holds *jagir* from the State aggregating Rs. 20,000.

Other notable personages though hardly within the category of leading families are:—

Rai Bahadur Munshi Sohan Lal, a Government servant, whose services were first lent to the Bikaner State, where he served about fourteen years, and who subsequently came to Bharatpur as Chief Revenue Officer in 1896. He is now Member and Secretary of the State Council.

Khan Bahadur Mahomed Rashid-ud-din Khan, formerly a Member of the Karauli State Council, from which State he enjoys a pension, and now a Member of the Bharatpur State Council.

DHOLPUR.

His Highness Rais-ud-Daula Sipahdar-ul-Mulk, Maharaj Adhiraj Sri Sawai Maharaj Rana Ram Singh Lokindar Bahadur, Dilar Jang, Jay Deo, is a Hindu Vaishnav

The Chief.

Ramanandi Jat of the Bamraulia family (see above). His Highness, who is the son of Maharaj Rana Nihal Singh, was born on the 26th May 1883, and succeeded his father on the 20th July 1901. His Highness has a brother known as the Raja Sahib, who was born on the 25th February 1893. The relatives of the Maharaj Rana belong to a group of families which, though now only seven survive, were originally eight and consequently are known as the "Athghar." These families are descended from one or other of the four sons of Maharaj Rana Bhag Raj, the ancestor in the ninth generation of the present Chief, who was at that time the only representative of the Bamraulia house who had issue. Of the principal family or *gadi-ka-ghar*, the Maharaj Rana and his brother are the only representatives. The nearest family to the Chief's is the Pachgaonghar, represented by Kunwar Rup Singh. The representatives of the "Athghar" take rank in the State only as connections of the Chief. Very few adoptions have taken place into the *gadi-ka-ghar*, and all of them have been from the Pachgaon family. By clan and family the Maharaj Rana is connected with the Jat races of Patiala, Jhind, Nabha and Bharatpur. His mother was the second daughter of Shahzada Shah Deo Singh of the family of Maharaja Ranjit Singh of Lahore.

The leading men of Dholpur are:—(1) The Rao of Sir Muttra, and the Rao of Rijhauni, members of the Jadon Bhati family of Karauli;

Leading men.

(2) Jats of the Bid Kheria family and of the Bamraulia, Rajaunia, Dandak, Sandel, Bijolia, Hanselia, and Dondaria families and of the Jadon Rajputs of Atar in Gwalior, who also hold lands in Sindia's territory; (3) hereditary office-bearers, and (4) new officials.

Individuals of note.

Of the above the following individuals may be noticed:—

(1) **Rao Ranjit Singh of Sir Muttra**, who holds the first place in the State, is a Jadon Bhati, descended from Mukat Rao, second son of Raja Gopal Das of Karauli, who settled at Sir Muttra in 1570. The present Rao, who is the son of Rao Madan Singh, was born on 18th June 1864, and was educated at the Mayo College, Ajmer. He has no son. Sir Muttra, which

is situated in the extreme south-west of Dholpur, comprises thirty-three villages with an area of 175 square miles, of which, however, only one-fifth is culturable. The revenue of the estate is about Rs. 70,000, but the property is heavily encumbered and is under the management of the Darbar. The Rao pays an annual quit rent to the Darbar of Rs. 20,000 and one lakh of rupees on investiture.

- (2) Rao Bhup Singh of Rijhauni is also a scion of the Karauli family. He succeeded his father in 1882, and was born on 28th August 1861. The Rao was educated at the Mayo

College. He has one son, who was born on 3rd February 1880, and a brother, both named Bhamorji. The estate, which pays quit rent of Rs. 1,660 to the Darbar, consists of five villages and yields a revenue of Rs. 5,000. It is in debt.

- (3) ————— Rai Bhola Parshad, Head Auditor of Revenue, belongs to a family which entered the service of the State in 1734.

- (4) Rai Bahadur Bishen Sarup, who was appointed Dewan of Dholpur in March 1891, after holding ministerial appointments for eighteen years, became Deputy Magistrate of Kekri in the Ajmer District. He held this appointment till his transfer to Dholpur in his present capacity. He retired from Government service in January 1895.

- (5) Hakim Abbas Hussain and Miyan Achhu are great grandsons of Baker Ali a famous Hakim (doctor) in the service of Maharana Khat Singh.

- (6) Mir Abid Ali was formerly a Member of the Council.

- (7) Mir Talib Hussain is the Commandant of the Infantry.

- (8) Major Indarbir Singh is the Commandant of the Cavalry, and is also in charge of the Maharaj Rana's household. He is a Brahmin of Garhwal.

- (9) Sirdar Fattah Singh, a relative of the Chief, is in charge of the Sir Muttia Estate.

- (10) Kunwar Ratan Singh, a member of the Bamiulia family, was formerly a Member of the Council.

- (11) Sirdar Umrao Singh was the Chief Secretary of the late Rana's "Ijlas Khas" (Court).

CHAPTER IX.

MUHAMMADAN STATE.

TONK.

The following account of the Tonk State is taken from Sir William Hunter's *Gazetteer of India*:—"The ruling family are Pathans of the Boner tribe. In the reign of the Emperor Muhammad Shah Ghazi, one Tola Khan left his home in the Boner country and took service in Rohilkhand with Ali Muhammad Khan, a Rohilla of distinction. His son Hyat Khan became possessed of some landed property in Serateem in the district of Muradabad; and to him in 1768 was born Amir Khan, the founder of Tonk. Beginning life as a petty mercenary leader, Amir Khan rose in 1798 to be the Commander of a large independent army in the service of Jaswant Rao Holkar, and was employed in the campaigns against Sindia, the Peshwa, and the British, and in assisting to levy the contribution exacted from Rajputana and Malwa. In 1806 Holkar granted to him the State of Tonk, and he had previously received the division of Sironj. In that year Amir Khan transferred himself and his army to the Raja of Jaipur, then at war with the Raja of Jodhpur; and after crushing the latter, changed sides and reduced the former. Having indiscriminately plundered both countries, he in 1809 proceeded at the head of 40,000 horsemen (being joined *en route* by 25,000 Pindaris) against the Raja of Nagpur. He was, however, warned off by the British Government, and returning to Rajputana, his bands plundered the country. Eventually in 1817, the Marquis of Hastings, with the view of putting down the Pindaris and restoring peace to Rajputana and Central India, offered Amir Khan the sovereignty of all the tracts bestowed on him by Holkar, on condition of his disbanding his army, which consisted of fifty-two battalions of disciplined infantry, one hundred and fifty guns, and a numerous body of Pathan cavalry. Finding resistance would be useless, Amir Khan acquiesced. His artillery, with the exception of forty guns, was purchased, and some of his troops enlisted in the British service. The remainder were liberally dealt with prior to disbandment, and the Rampura fort and the division of Aligarh Rampura were presented to the Nawab by the British Government as a free gift." These arrangements were embodied in a treaty in 1817. Amir Khan died in 1834, and was succeeded by his son Waziru-d-daula, who during the Mutiny of 1857 repulsed with comparatively few men an attack made on the Tonk fort by the combined forces numbering some 17,000 men of the Nawab of Banda and Tantia Topi. In recognition of the bravery displayed on this occasion, the Nawab's salute was raised from fifteen to seventeen guns. He received a *sanad* guaranteeing the Tonk succession, according to the Muhammadan law of inheritance on failure of natural heirs. On his death in 1864, his son Muhammad Ali Khan succeeded to the *masnad*. He was deposed three years and eight months later as a punishment for his complicity in the attack made on the uncles and followers of the Thakur of Lawa, one of chief feudatories of the State. He was succeeded by his son, the present Chief, and the salute was

reduced to eleven guns; the *ex-Nawab* being at the same time placed under surveillance at Benares, and an annual stipend of Rs. 60,000 assigned for his support out of the revenues of the Tonk State. He died at Benares in 1895, since which time the stipend has been stopped. During the reign of the present Chief the salute of seventeen guns has been restored.

His Highness Nawab Muhammad Ibrahim Ali Khan, G.C.I.E., Nawab of Tonk, is the eldest son of Nawab Muhammad Ali Khan, and was born in 1848 (A.H. 1265). He succeeded the *masnad* in 1866 on the deposition of his father. During his minority the administration was carried on by a Council of Regency of five members presided over by His Highness's great-uncle Sahibzada Ibadulla Khan, and assisted by Captain J. Blair, an Assistant to the Governor-General's Agent in Rajputana. The Nawab was invested with governing powers on the 1st January 1870. He has five wives, of whom three belong to the Tonk family, the fourth to another Pathan family and the fifth to that of Nawab Kalab Ali Khan, Nawab of Rampur. Eighteen sons have been born to His Highness, of whom eleven survive, namely—

- (1) Sahibzada Abdu-l-Hafiz Khan, born on 29th January 1877.
- (2) Sahibzada Muhammad Saadat Ali Khan, born on 18th February 1879.
- (3) Sahibzada Muhammad Abdu-r-Rashid Khan, born on 17th March 1880.
- (4) Sahibzada Abdulla Khan, born on 23rd March 1880.
- (5) Sahibzada Abdu-l-Wahid Khan, born on 28th June 1884.
- (6) Sahibzada Faruk Ali Khan, born on 8th August 1885.
- (7) Sahibzada Masud Ali Khan, born on 13th August 1886.
- (8) Sahibzada Turab Ali Khan, born on 14th January 1887.
- (9) Sahibzada Iftikhar Ali Khan, born on 5th March 1887.
- (10) Sahibzada Zubair Ali Khan, born on 1st July 1887.
- (11) Sahibzada Usman Ali Khan, born on 25th March 1889.

The following sons are dead :—Sahibzadas Muhammad Ismail Khan, Yusuf Ali Khan, Yunas Ali Khan, Ghiyasu-d-din Khan, Alau-d-din Khan, Sadik Ali Khan, and Iftikhar Ali Khan. Of the fifteen daughters, nine have been married.

The Nawab has eight brothers of whom four are by the same mother as himself. Five hold *jagirs* of values varying from Rs. 8,306 to Rs. 10,821 and three are in receipt of cash allowances. Six brothers have received titles from the State, and hold offices to which salaries of Rs. 200 to Rs. 600 are attached. The Nawab has also one uncle on the male side, Sahibzada Muhammad Abdu-r-Rahman Khan.

The families most closely related to the Nawab, after the above, are those of the descendants of the nine sons and seven daughters of Nawab Amiru-d-daula. A niece of Nawab Kalab Ali Khan of Rampur has been married to His Highness, and one of the Nawab's sisters has been married to the nephew of the former, another sister to Suraiya Jah, a descendant of the Moghal family who ruled in India. One daughter of the late Nawab Wazir-ud-doula was married to the late Nawab Gosmuhammad Khan of Jaora. Succession in the Tonk family is by primogeniture, modified only by the rule of Muhammadan law which prefers a younger son to a grandson by an elder son who has predeceased his father.

The leading men of the Tonk State are the hereditary nobles, the office-bearers, the officials, and others, such as Maulvis, Hakims, etc. In public Darbar Sahibzada Muhammad Abdul Rahman Khan, uncle to the Nawab, is allotted the first seat to the right of His Highness in consideration of his kinship and age, and the *nazar* presented by him, which the Chief receives standing. After him come the Nawab's eight brothers in order of age, and lastly his cousins and other relatives.

The following are the principal nobles and *Jagirdars* :—

- (1) Amir-ul-Umra Muian-ul-Mulk Sahibzada Muhammad Abdul Rahman Khan Galib Jang, uncle to the Nawab, receives cash allowance of Rs. 8,400 per annum.
- (2) Azam-ul-Umra Vikarul Mulk Sahibzada Muhammad Ishakkhan Sitwat-i-Jang, *Jagirdar* of Indoda, brother to the Nawab, holds a *jagir* valued at Rs. 10,760, and pays Rs. 25 as tribute.
- (3) Muian-ul-Umra Mumtaz-ul-Mulk Sahibzada Abdul Samad Khan Gazanfar Jang, brother to the Nawab, receives a cash allowance of Rs. 8,400 in addition to a *jagir* village yielding Rs. 1,000.
- (4) Azam-ul-Umra Mumtaz-ul-Mulk Sahibzada Haji Hafiz Abdul Rahim Khan Muzaffar Jang, *Jagirdar* of Loharwara, brother to the Nawab, holds *jagir* yielding Rs. 8,800.
- (5) Nizam-ul-Umra Ahtasham-ul-Mulk Sahibzada Hafiz Haji Quari Maulvi Muhammad Abdul Wahab Khan Safdar Jang, *Jagirdar* of Baori, brother to the Nawab, holds a *jagir* yielding Rs. 8,400.
- (6) Mumtaz-ul-Umra Muazzam-ul-Mulk Sahibzada Hafiz Muhammad Saddiq Khan Delair Jang, *Jagirdar* of Ghans, brother to the Nawab, holds a *jagir* yielding Rs. 10,821.

(7) Vikar-ul-Umra Aitmad-ul-Mulk Sahibzada Abdul Hamid Khan Dilawar Jang, *Jagirdar* of Bhamor, brother to the Nawab, holds a *jagir* yielding Rs. 11,100.

(8) Sahibzada Muhammad Safiulla Khan, brother to the Nawab, receives a cash allowance of Rs. 6,000 per annum.

(9) Sahibzada Muhammad Rafiq Khan, brother to the Nawab, receives a cash allowance of Rs. 7,200 in addition to a village in *jagir* yielding a revenue of Rs. 1,562.

(10) Shamsh-ul-Umra Nizam-ul-Mulk Sahibzada Muhammad Khan Tahawar Jang *Jagirdar* of Nawatila, cousin to the Nawab, holds a *jagir* yielding Rs. 11,722 and pays Rs. 346-2-3 as tribute.

(11) Fakhr-ul-Umra Iftikhar-ul-Mulk Sahibzada Muhammad Abdul Alim Khan Firoz Jang, son of late Iftikhar-ul-Umara Fakhr-ul-Mulk Sahibzada Sir Muhammad Obeidulla Khan Bahadur, K.C.I.E., C.S.I., Firoz Jang, *Jagirdar* of Shoab, cousin to the Nawab, holds a *jagir* yielding Rs. 17,153-11-3 and is exempt from payment of tribute.

(12) Sahibzada Muhammad Hamid Khan, son of Aizaz-ul-Umara Moaziz-ul-Mulk Sahibzada Ahmad Khan Shaukat Jang, nephew to the Nawab, receives a cash allowance of Rs. 10,281.

(13) Sahibzada Muhammad Hasan Khan, son of Khas-ul-Umara, Itimad-ul-Mulk Sahibzada Muhammad Khan I Shamshir Jang, *Jagirdar* of Sonwa, holds a *jagir* yielding Rs. 17,542.

(14) Sahibzada Nurud-Din Khan, 1st cousin to the Nawab, receives an annual cash allowance of Rs. 5,160 in addition to a *jagir* yielding Rs. 425.

(15) Sahibzada Muhammad Khau, uncle to the Nawab, receives an annual cash allowance of Rs. 11,400 in addition to a *jagir* yielding Rs. 1,116-8.

(16) Sahibzada Ahmadulla Khan, *Jagirdar* of Arnia Mal, uncle to the Nawab, holds a *jagir* of Rs. 24,252-8 and pays Rs. 1,672-8 as tribute.

(17) Sahibzada Hamid Khan, uncle to the Nawab, receives an annual cash allowance of Rs. 9,600.

(18) Sahibzada Abdul Rao of Khan, uncle to the Nawab, son of late Sahibzada Ahmadyar Khan, receives an annual cash allowance of Rs. 8,100.

(19) Sahibzada Abdul Gaffur Khan, uncle to the Nawab, receives an annual cash allowance of Rs. 4,500.

(20) Sahibzada Muhammad Abdul Rahman Khan, son of late Ashraf-ul-Umara Umdat-ul-Mulk Sahibzada Ahmadyar Khan Fateh Jang, *Jagirdar* of Napania. Holds a *jagir* yielding Rs. 4,800.

(21) Sahibzada Ahsanulla Khan, nephew to the Nawab, receives an annual cash allowance of Rs. 6,672.

(22) Sahibzada Ali Ahmad Khan, uncle to the Nawab, receives an annual cash allowance of Rs. 3,900.

(23) Sahibzada Sher Alikhan, son of late Sahibzada Abdul Rahman Khan, cousin to the Nawab, receives an annual cash allowance of Rs. 3,750.

(24) Sahibzada Ali Muhammad Khan, uncle to the Nawab, receives an annual cash allowance of Rs. 3,900.

The largest estates are those owned by Sahibzada Muhammad Abdul Alim Khan, son of late Sir Muhammad Ohaidulla Khan, K.C.I.E., C.S.I., Sahibzada Mohammad Hussain Khan, son of late Sahibzada Muhammad Khan I, and Sahibzada Ahmad-ulla Khan. As a rule no service is rendered by the *jagirdars*, though all are expected to assist the Chief in case of necessity.

The *jagirs* and cash allowances are hereditary, succession fees (*nazarana*) being levied in the case of all *jagirdars* not belonging to the Chief's family. *Jagirdars* of the first class receive visits of condolence (*matampur*) from the Chief. On failure of natural heirs adoption is allowed from among near relations, but subject to the Chief's permission.

(1) Mir Saman Shaikh Rahim Baksh is the officer in charge of State Toshakhana and Arsenal. He received from the present Chief a *jagir* of the village of Sheorampura, which yields Rs. 425 a year. He also holds *muafi* (revenue-free) lands and a village on *istimrari* (permanent) tenure. He pays no tribute.

(2) Hafiz Abdul Rahman holds *muafi* land and receives a cash allowance of Rs. 1,200 yearly.

(3) Mir Inamulla Khan holds in *jagir* two villages, which yield Rs. 3,862 and renders service with five horses. He pays no tribute.

(1) Nizam-ul-Umara Ahtasham-ul-Mulk Sahibzada Hafiz Haji Quari Maulvi Muhammad Abdul Wahabkhan Safdar Jang, Prime Minister of the State.

(2) Afzal-ul-Umara Mumtaz-ul-Mulk Sahibzada Hafiz Haji Muhammad Abdul Rahim Khan Muzaffar Jang, General of the State forces.

(3) Azjam-ul-Umra Vikar-ul-Mulk Sahibzada Hafiz Muhammad Isbak Khan, Nazim of Tonk.

(4) G. E. C. Wakefield, Esquire, Superintendent of Land Revenue Administration and Irrigation Department.

(5) Khan Sahib Mirza Muhammad Alikhan, a native of Delhi, Judicial Member of the Council. In recognition of his services in connection with the Famine of 1896-97, he received the title of Khan Sahib from the Government of India as a personal distinction. He also holds *muafi* land given by the present Chief.

(6) Babu Damodar Rao, Superintendent of the Public Works Department and Treasury officer. He was formerly in the Public Works Department of the Rajputana Agency. His services were transferred to the Tonk State in 1887.

(7) Bakhshi-ul-Mulk Syed Ahmad Khan, an hereditary Official and *Tazimi* Sardar, Paymaster General of the State.

(8) Mumtaz-ul-Umra Muazzam-ul-Mulk Sahibzada Hafiz Muhammad Siddiq Khan, Nazim of Sironj Pargana.

(9) Syed Muhammed Motamid-ul-Mulk, Nazim of Pirawa.

(10) Mirza Muhammad Afzal Yarkhan, Nazim of Nimbahera.

(11) Hakim Syed Abdul Majid, Nazim of Aligarh.

(12) Sahibzada Muhammad Abdul Sami Khan, Nazim of Criminal Court.

(13) Maulvi Syed Abdul Rahman, Nazim of the Customs Department.

(14) Syed Aulad Hussain, son of Fakhar-ul-Zaman Syed Irshad Hussain Khan Motamid-i-Khas. He is a *Tazimi* Sardar, holds the village of Sowlatpura in *jagir*, which yields Rs. 1,500 a year, and pays Rs. 118-4-9 as tribute.

(15) Munshi Chunni Lal, Assistant to the Superintendent of Land Revenue Administration.

(16) Maulvi Nawab Alikhan, a native of Delhi, Assistant to the Prime Minister, in charge of Audit and Account Office.

(17) Munshi Saiyid Amjad Ali, Assistant to the Prime Minister, in charge of the Revenue Branch.

(18) Sahibzada Muhammad Abdul Majid Khan, Assistant to the Prime Minister, in charge of Zillagair Office.

(19) Maulvi Abdul Rahman Khan, Secretary to the Council. His services were lent by Government to the Tonk State in 1889.

(20) Munshi Saiyid Abdul Rahim, Private Secretary to His Highness the Nawab. He was formerly an Inspector in the Postal Department, and his services were lent to the State.

(21) Maulvi Fazal Haq, Mir Munshi to the Nawab.

(22) Munshi Saiyid Abdul Hamid, State Motamid, Mayo College, Ajmer.

(1) Saiyid Muhammad Ismail, a Pirzada or spiritual adviser to the Nawab, holds in *jagir* the village of Naner, which yields Rs. 9,000 a year and pays no tribute. As he is a minor, the

Other persons of note.

management of the estate is entrusted to Bakhshi Muhammad Usman. The *jagir* was granted by Nawab Waziru-d-Daula. He receives *Tazim*.

(2) Saiyid Muhammad Irfan is also a Pirzada and occupies second place in rank from that of Saiyid Muhammad Ismail. He holds in *jagir* the village of Matuka which was also conferred by Nawab Waziru-d-Daula and yields Rs. 1,747. The estate is exempt from tribute.

(3) Muhammad Gauhar Ali Khan holds the *jagir* of Himmatgarh, which yields Rs. 5,313 and pays a tribute of Rs. 113. The *jagir* was granted by Nawab Waziru-d-Daula.

(4) Ahmad Khan, Risaldar, holds the *jagir* of Banore, granted in the time of Nawab Amiru-d-Daula, which yields Rs. 3,467, pays Rs. 66-3-0 as tribute and renders service with ten *sowars*.

(5) Pir Absanulla Khan of Mirbana holds a *jagir* conferred by Nawab Muhammad Ali Khan in consideration of the grantee's position as a Pirzada. It yields Rs. 3,025 yearly, and pays Rs. 500 as tribute.

(6) Saiyid Muhammad Yusuf, son of Maulvi Zakariya, holds the *jagir* of Alinagar, which yields Rs. 1,213 yearly and pays Rs. 213 in tribute. The estate was granted as a reward for good service by Nawab Waziru-d-Daula.

(7) Muhammad Ali Khan holds the *jagir* of Rohot, which yields Rs. 1,900 a year and pays no tribute. The *jagir* with the title of Colonel was conferred on the present holder's father as the grandson of Colonel Mahtab Khan, Roshanu-d-Daula, Umdatul-Mulk, Sham-sam-i-Jang.

(8) Heirs of Bahadur Muhammad Khan hold the *jagir* of Gangli which was conferred in the time of Nawab Amiru-d-Daula. It yields annually Rs. 2,750 and is exempt from tribute.

(9) Vilayat Rai, a Muhammadan Bhat, holds in *jagir* the village of Hari Kalan yielding Rs. 5,000 a year and paying Rs. 2,000 as tribute to the Darbar. The *jagir* was conferred by Nawab Amiru-d-Daula.

- (10) Seth Magni Ram Bhabhut Singh, of the firm of Dipeband Punamchand of Ratlam, holds a *jagir* conferred by Nawab Waziru-d-Daula consisting of Khari and another village yielding Rs. 1,978 and paying Rs. 10 as tribute.
- (11) Zar Muhammad Khan holds a *jagir* consisting of Bhilwara, Uncha and two other villages yielding Rs. 2,000 a year and paying Rs. 384 as tribute. The villages were conferred by Nawab Amiru-d-Daula.
- (12) Heirs of Muhammad Akbar Khan hold the *jagir* of Pipaliya granted by Nawab Amiru-d-Daula, which yields Rs. 2,000 and pays Rs. 244 as tribute.
- (13) Heir of Thakur Balwant Singh holds the *jagir* of Titarkhere, which existed before the foundation of the Tonk State. It yields Rs. 1,400 a year, and pays Rs. 15-3-6 as tribute.
- (14) Hafiz Abdu-l-Latif Khan holds the *jagir* of Narkhera granted by Nawab Amiru-d-Daula, which yields Rs. 1,000 a year and pays Rs. 100 as tribute to the Darbar.
- (15) Muhammad Sher Khan holds the *jagir* of Amirgarh granted by Nawab Amiru-d-Daula, which yields Rs. 2,000 and pays Rs. 198-12-0 as tribute to the Darbar.
- (16) Heirs of Ghulam Akbar Khan holds the *jagir* of Kurwansa granted by Nawab Muhammad Ali Khan, which yields Rs. 1,000 a year and pays Rs. 173 as tribute to the Darbar.
- (17) Ghulam-Ghaus Khan and others hold a *jagir* consisting of Chantauli and four other villages granted by Nawab Waziru-d-Daula, which yields Rs. 5,287 and pays Rs. 712 as tribute.
- (18) Heirs of Muhammad Dastgir Khan hold a *jagir* consisting of Sanaoti and three other villages granted by Nawab Muhammad Ali Khan, which yields Rs. 2,052 a year and supplies five *sowars* for the Raj service. He pays Rs. 49 as tribute.
- (19) Raja Kalyan Singh of Dehri Madho holds a *jagir* which yields Rs. 1,600 and pays Rs. 161-8-0 as tribute to the Darbar. The *jagir*, with the title of Raja and the right to carry kettle-drums and an ensign, was granted by Nawab Amiru-d-Daula to an ancestor of the present holder, who was *Jamadar* of *Harkaras* (messengers).
- (20) Kazi Saiyid Abdu-l-Halim holds the village of Deori which was granted to his ancestors by the Mughal Emperors. It yields Rs. 428-2-6 a year and pays Rs. 28-4-6 as tribute. The Kazi receives *khilats* or robes of honour at the *Id*s as a reward for conducting the services and is authorized to collect octroi in the city.
- (21) The heirs of Captain Akhtar Buland Khan hold, by grant from the present Chief, the *jagir* of Palri, which yields Rs. 2,607 and is exempt from tribute.

AJMER.

The first rulers of Ajmer, of whom anything is known, were the Chauhans, by one of whom, Raja Aja, the city from which the district takes its name, is said to have been founded in the year 145 A.D. The Chauhans held Ajmer without interruption till the days of Prithwi Raj, King of Delhi, who was by adoption ruler also of Ajmer. After the defeat of this monarch, the conqueror Shahab-ud-din took Ajmer and made it over to a relative of Prithwi Raj, but shortly afterwards appointed a Governor of the city to control the new Raja. After the invasion of Timurlang, and the extinction of the house of Tughlak, Ajmer was occupied by the Rana of Mewar, on whose assassination it fell into the hands of the Muhammadan kings of Malwa. These held it from 1469 to 1531, when the kingdom of Malwa was annexed to that of Gujarat. The Chief of Marwar, Mal Deo, took advantage of the opportunity to seize Ajmer, which was held by the Rahtors for twenty-four years. Akbar conquered it in 1556. For one hundred and ninety-four years from that time Ajmer remained an integral portion of the Mughal Empire, and the centre of a *subah* (province) which comprised the whole of Rajputana. In 1720 Ajit Singh, the son of Raja Jaswant Singh of Marwar, seized Ajmer, and killed the Imperial Governor. He was expelled by Muhammad Shah, and his son Ahlay Singh was appointed Viceroy of Ajmer. In the struggles which took place between Ram Singh, the successor of Ahlay Singh, and the latter's uncle, Bakht Singh, the Mahrattas under Jay Appa Sindia were called in by Bakht Singh. After Bakht Singh's death, his son, Bijay Singh, opposed the Mahrattas, and Jay Appa was assassinated at his instigation. Eventually Ajmer was ceded to the Mahrattas as *Mundkati*, or, compensation for the blood of Jay Appa, and was held by them till 1787, when, after the defeat of the Mahrattas at the battle of Tonga, by the coalition of the Rahtors and Kachhwahas, under the Raja of Jaipur, the Rahtors retook the city. Three years later the Mahrattas under De Boigne recovered Ajmer, which they held till 1818. At the close of the Pindari war in that year, Ajmer was ceded by Daulat Rao Sindia to the British, by whom it has since been held.

The leading men of Ajmer fall into three classes :—(1) *Istimiradars*, (2) *Jagirdars*, and (3) *Seths*. The *Seths* are the bankers of Ajmer, and live in the city. The *Istimiradars* and *Jagirdars* hold so much of the land of the district as is not *khalsa*. As might be expected from the history of Ajmer, the landholders are all Rajputs or Muhammadans, but it is remarkable that, though the Chauhans held the district for over a thousand years, no single representative of the clan is now to be found within its borders. Almost all the Rajput estate-holders are Rahtor descendants of the ruling house of Marwar. The only exceptions are the Sesodia family of Sawar in the south, the petty *Istimiradar* of Manoharpur, the *Jagirdar* of Rijgarh, and one

or two other small *Jagirdars*. These last are all Rajputs of the Gaur clan. The Gaur Rajputs for a time held a prominent position in Ajmer. In the days of Prithvi Raj, three brothers, being then on a pilgrimage from Gaur in Bengal to Dwarka, were engaged by that monarch in a successful expedition against Daya Singh of Nagor, and subsequently each of them married a daughter of the king. One, Raja Bachraj, settled in Ajmer. In the course of time Junia, Sarwar (now in Kishangarh), Deolia, and the adjacent country fell into the hands of the Gaur Rajputs, and to the head of the clan Humayun gave a *mansab* of Rs. 7,000. In the time of Akbar Raja Bithal Das founded the town of Rajgarh, and called it after the name of his grandson Raj Singh. The son of the latter took Srinagar from the Puar (Pramar) Rajputs, who have now disappeared from the district. This was the climax of the prosperity of the Gaurs, for soon afterwards they were ejected from Rajgarh and all their territory by Kishan Singh, a Rahtor. After 25 years of dispossession, Gopal Singh recovered Rajgarh, and the Gaurs were in possession when the country fell into the hands of the Mahrattas. The Mahrattas in 1817 resumed Rajgarh, and the twelve villages attached to it, as the Raja was unable to pay a contribution of Rs. 10,000 as *fauz kharch* (war expenditure). On the establishment of British rule, these villages were restored on condition of payment of *nazarana* (succession fee), but as the *nazarana* was not, or could not be paid, the whole estate, with the exception of one small village, was resumed, and remained *khalsa* till 1874, when it was presented in *jagir* to the representative of the ancient house.

The *Istimrardars* are so called from the fact that they hold their estates in perpetuity on condition of paying an annual revenue to Government, which is not liable to enhancement.

Istimrardars.

They are divided into two classes—*tazimi* and others. All are entitled to seats in Darbar. Of the nineteen principal *Istimrari* estates, the holders of fifteen—Bhinai, Sawar, Masuda, Pisangan, Junia, Deolia, Kharwa, Bandanwara, Mehrn, Para, Deogaon-Baghera, Govindgarh, Tantoti, Barli, and Bagsuri—enjoy the honour of the *tazim*. Of these, the first four and the *Istimrardar* of Kharwa are the heads of their respective houses from which the remainder are offshoots. The Rahtors of Ajmer are descended from one or other of the Chiefs of Marwar, of whom the following are in this connection the most important:—Rao Jodha, 1453 [Masuda and Bagsuri]; Rao Maldeo, 1531 [Bhinai]; and Raja Udai Singh, 1583, [Gangwana (*jagir*), Pisangan, Mehrn, Junia, and Govindgarh]. The families of Deolia, Bandanwara, Deogaon-Baghera, Tantoti, and Barli are offshoots of the house of Bhinai, and the *Istimrardars* of Para is a descendant of the family of Pisangan.

In all the *Istimrardar* families, with the unimportant exception of Karel, where sub-division is still the rule, succession is by primogeniture, the provision for younger sons consisting generally of a grant of a well and a few *bighas* of land, which is heritable property until the line of the original grantee is extinct. In early times, as in Karet at present, all sons shared alike except the eldest, whose portion was generally larger than that of the rest, but the disruption of estates which ensued was so inconvenient that it was dropped in favour of an assignment, known as *gras*, of single villages to younger sons, an arrangement which in its turn has given place to that now prevailing.

The following account is given by Mr. LaTouche of the origin of the *Istimrar* tenures:—“The tenure of the feudal Chief was originally identical with that of the Chiefs in the Native States of Rajputana. The estates were *jagirs* held on condition of military service, and liable to various feudal incidents. Colonel Tod, in his *Rajasthan*, Volume I, page 167, thus sums up the result of his inquiries into these tenures—‘A grant of an estate is for the life of the holder, with inheritance for his offspring in lineal descent or adoption with the sanction of the Prince, and resumable for crime or incapacity; this reversion and power of resumption being marked by the usual ceremonies on each lapse of the grantee, of sequestration (*zabti*), of relief (*nazarana*), of homage and investiture of the heir.’ From all that can be discovered the original tenure of the mass of the *Istimrar* estates in Ajmer is exactly described by the above quotation. The estates were life-grants, but, like all similar tenures, they tended to become hereditary.”

The *Istimrardars* are by law incompetent to make alienations lasting beyond their own lives. Like the other estates in Rajputana, those of Ajmer were originally held on service tenures, and were subject to certain feudal liabilities. In lieu of these burdens, the Mahrattas substituted fixed cash payments and exacted certain cesses. The latter were abolished by the British, and in 1873 it was finally decided that the assessments then levied should be fixed in perpetuity, subject only to the condition of payment of a *nazarana* on succession in certain cases.

Of the *Jagirdars*, two, those of Rajgarh and Arjanpura, are Gaur Rajputs, and one, Gangwana, is a Rahtor. The remainder are chiefly Muhammadans, the principal being Dewan Ghias-ud-din Ali Khan, a descendant of Khwaja Muayyin-ud-din Chishti, and Inayatullah Shah, the descendant of a saint who lived in Herat.

Jagirdars.

Ajmer is the residence of the heads of several important firms of Seths, who have branches throughout Rajputana and in other parts of India.

Seths.

(1) “Raja” Sardul Singh of Bhinai, a Rahtor Rajput, descended from Rao Jodha, the founder of the city of Jodhpur, is the premier Thakur of the district. Chandra Sen, the

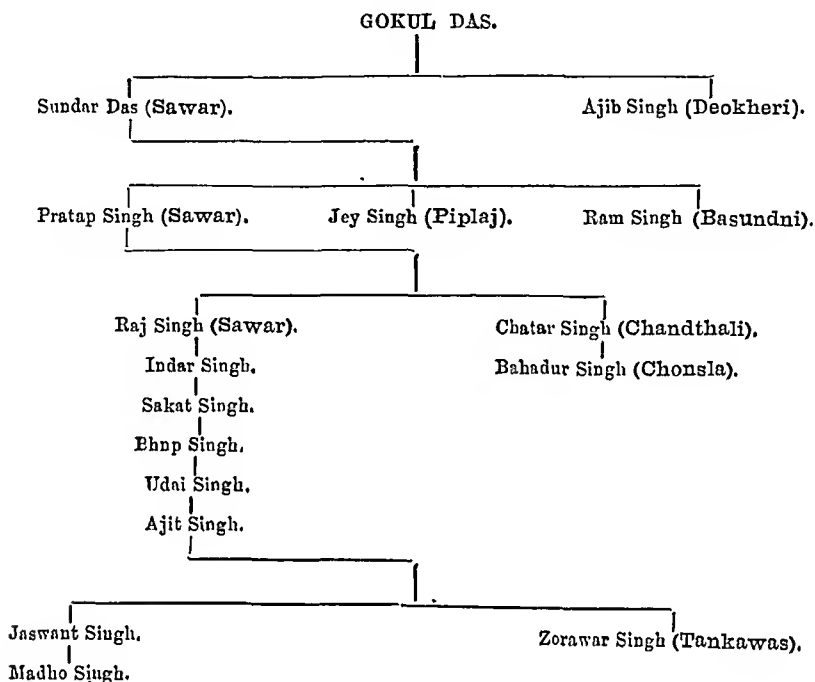
Tazimi Istimrardars.

grandson of Rao Mal Deo of Marwar (1531), came to Ajmer, and having by stratagem intoxicated Madlia, the Chief of a band of Bhils who ravaged the country near Bhinai, slew him and dispersed his followers. For this service Bhinai and seven other *parganas* were bestowed on him in *jagir* by the Emperor Akbar. The *jagir* consisted of eighty-four villages, which were subsequently divided, in the proportion of 46 to 38 between Udai Bhan and Akhay Raj in the fourth generation from Chaudra Sen, the former making Bhinai and the latter Deolia his head-quarters. Udai Bhan being at that time childless adopted Narsingh Das, a son of Akhay Raj, but on the subsequent birth of a son, Kesri Singh, three villages were assigned to Narsingh Das, from whom is descended the present Thakur of Tantoti. Kesri Singh obtained Bhinai and twenty-four villages, and a younger brother, Suraj Mal, who became the ancestor of the house of Bandanwara, received ten villages. The twenty-five villages of Bhinai yield a revenue of about Rs. 80,000 a year. Three of them have been assigned to the subordinate Thakurs of Sholian, Sarana, and Santola as maintenance, and one, Kotri, to a Charan. Santola is held in mortgage by the Maharaja of Kishangarh. The Bhinai estate, which is well managed, pays a revenue to Government of Rs. 7,717. The title of Raja was bestowed on the head of the Bhinai house in 1783 by the then Chief of Jodhpur, as a reward for military service.

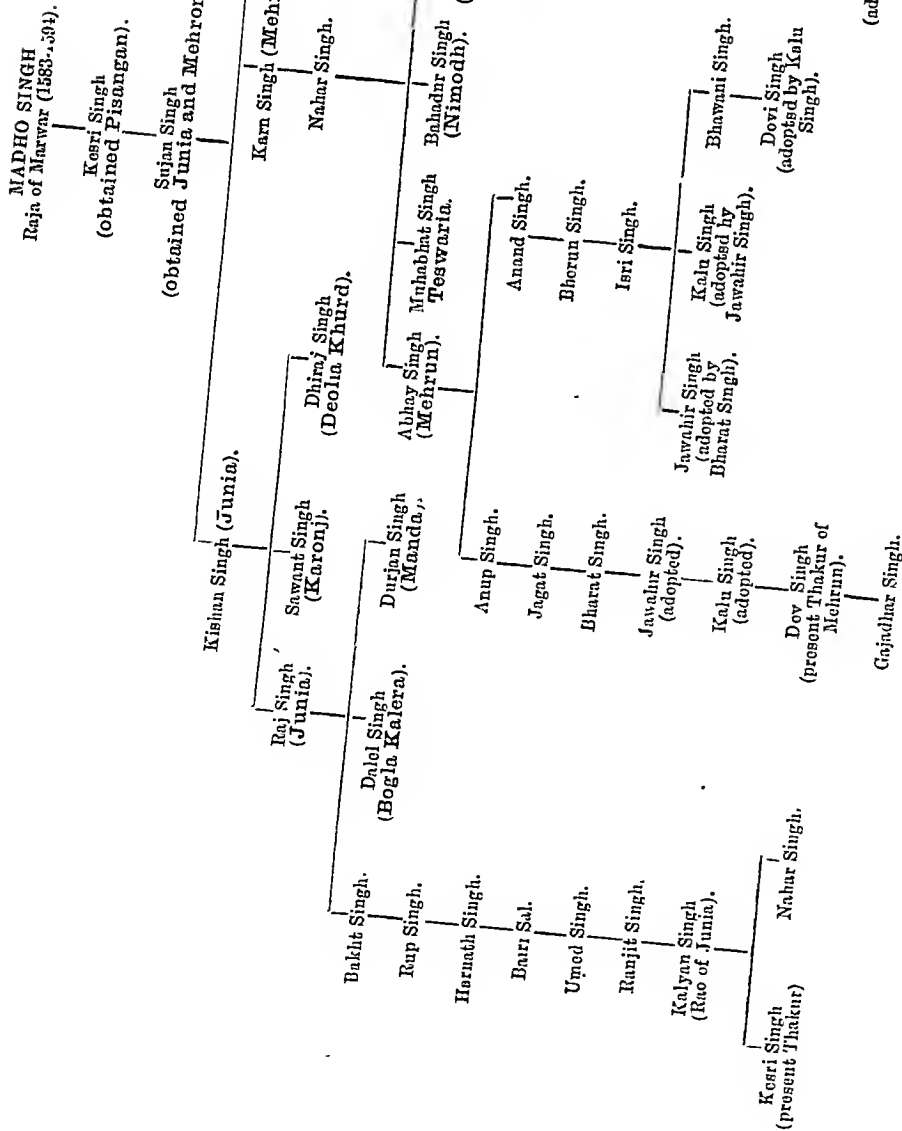
The present Raja, who was born on the 3rd March 1891, is the second son of his father Raja Mangal Singh Bahadur, C.I.E. Raja Mangal Singh, who was an Honorary Magistrate and Subordinate Judge, received the title of Raja Bahadur as a personal distinction on the 1st January 1877, and was admitted two years later to the Companionship of the Order of the Indian Empire. On the death of Raja Mangal Singh, which took place on 29th June 1892, Raja Udai Singh, his eldest son, aged six years, succeeded him. Udai Singh died on 29th June 1897, and was succeeded by the present Raja.

The pedigree on the next page shows the various branches of the Bhinai family, and gives the descent of the *tazimi* lines: —

(2) Thakur Umed Singh of Sawar, is a Sesodia Rajput of the Saktawat family, who holds an estate of thirty-three villages yielding an income of about Rs. 30,000, and paying Rs. 7,215 as revenue to Government. The estate forms a portion of a *jagir* granted by the Emperor Jahangir to Gokul Das, grandson of Sakat Singh, and great-grandson of Rana Udai Singh of Mewar. Thakur Umed Singh, who succeeded his father, Raja Madho Singh, was born in February 1862. He was educated at the Mayo College, and knows Hindi and English. He is also an Honorary Magistrate and Munsif within the limits of his estate. He has a son who was born in January 1893. His nearest family is that of Tankawas. The title of Raja was conferred on Thakur Madho Singh as a personal distinction in 1877. The following pedigree shows the descent of the family from Gokul Das and the connected branches :—



(4) Raja Kandarp Sen of Pisangan, a Rahtor Rajput of the Jodhawat family, holds an estate consisting of eleven villages to the west of Ajmer, of which the annual income is about Rs. 23,000 and the revenue payable to Government Rs. 4,563. The founder of the estate was Kesri Singh, a grandson of Raja Udai Singh of Marwar, who having come to Ajmer to seek his fortune, ejected the Puar (Pramar) Rajputs from Pisangan. His son, Sujan Singh, conquered Junia from the Gaur Rajputs and Mehron from the Sesodias. In the division of property which took place on Sujan Singh's death, Pisangan was assigned to the youngest son, as a reward, it is said, for his having avenged the death of an uncle. The title of Raja, which he held by courtesy by the *Istimrardar* of Pisangan, was granted by a *sanad* of Maharaja Man Singh of Marwar in 1806 to Nathu Singh, in recognition of services rendered by the latter in the famous marriage dispute between Jodhpur and Udaipur. The title was also conferred as a personal distinction by the British Government on the late Thakur Partap Singh in 1877. The present Raja, who was born on 25th May 1865, was the son of Thakur Mahipal Singh of Khawas, and was adopted by Raja Partap Singh in 1883. He has one son, Ranchor. The following pedigree shows the descent of the Pisangan, Junian, and Mehrnn families:—



(5) Thakur Kesri Singh of Junian is a Rahtor Rajput belonging to the same family as the Raja of Pisangan (*q.v.*). The Junia estate consists of sixteen villages, yielding an annual income of Rs. 35,000, and paying Rs. 5,723 as revenue to Government. The *Istimrardar* of Junia is hereditary *bhumia* of Kekui, and provides as such for the watch and ward of that town. He holds also one village in Jaipur and one in Kota in *jagir*. Rao Kalyan Singh, late *Istimrardar* of Junia, was the son of Kanwar Ranjit Singh, and succeeded his grandfather, Thakur Umed Singh, in 1868. He was educated at the Mayo College, and knew English and Hindi. Kalyan Singh, on whom the title of Rao was bestowed as a personal distinction in 1877, had married a sister of the late Maharaja Mangal Singh of Alwar. He died on 30th July 1895, leaving two sons, Kesri Singh and Nahar Singh.

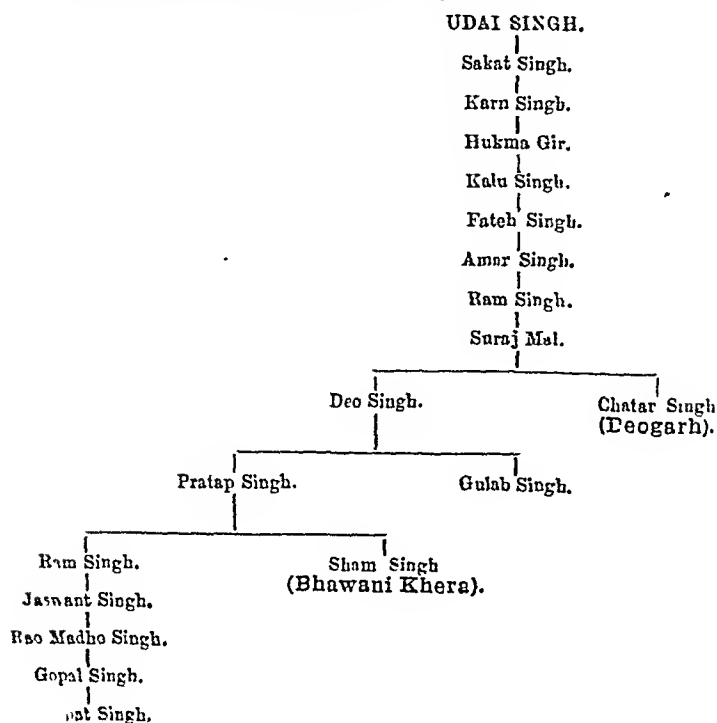
Kesri Singh, the elder son, who was born on 8th October 1886, succeeded his father Kalyan Singh. He is a student of the Mayo College.

(6) Thakur Mod Singh of Deolia, a Rahtor Rajput, descended from Akhay Raj, the son of the founder of the Bhinai family, holds an estate of five villages, yielding an income of about Rs. 32,000 a year, and paying Rs. 3,380 as revenue to Government. During the Marwar ascendancy, Deolia supplied thirty-six horsemen to the service of the State, and the holder enjoyed, besides the Ajmer *jagir*, an estate of the value of Rs. 36,000 in Marwar, and received Rs. 35 a day from that State. The Marwar *jagir* and the daily allowance were continued till 1806. Thakur Mod Singh, who was born on 18th February 1872 and was educated at the Mayo College, succeeded the late Thakur, Rao Hari Singh. The estate was transferred to him in the month of February 1893, on his attaining majority. The Rao had nominated the Thakur of Kaibania as his successor, but Thakur Mod Singh, being the nearest of kin to the deceased, his claim was recognized by the Government of India as being the stronger, in accordance with the usage prevalent in the family. The late Thakur Hari Singh, on whom the title of Rao was conferred as a personal distinction in 1877, was an Honorary Magistrate and Munsiff within the limits of his own estate. The descent of the Thakur and of the minor connected families is shown in the pedigree of the Bhinai family at page 5. Thakur Mod Singh has two sons—Surya Bhan, born on 15th April 1894, and Bijai Singh on 30th January 1901. He has recently been appointed Honorary Magistrate and Munsiff within his estate.

(7) Thakur Gopal Singh of Kharwa is a Singhot Rahtor Rajput of the Sakat family, descended from Rao Jodha. He holds an estate consisting of fifteen villages, and yielding an estimated revenue of Rs. 30,000, and pays Rs. 2,318 annually to Government. The estate is said to have been conferred by Akbar on Sakat Singh, a son of Raja Udai Singh of Marwar, as a reward for saving the Emperor from drowning. For seven generations no division took place, but at the present time three villages belonging to Kharwa are held by three subordinate *Istimrardars*, and one by Chaians. Seventeen villages, which formerly belonged to Kharwa, were incorporated in Merwara on the constitution of that district, and under an agreement recently sanctioned the *Istimrardar* receives Rs. 1,000 a year from the British Government in full satisfaction of his claims to these villages.

Madho Singh, the late *Istimrardar* on whom the title of Rao was conferred as a personal distinction in 1877, was an Honorary Magistrate and Munsiff within the limits of his estate. He died on 8th November 1898, and was succeeded by his only son, Thakur Gopal Singh, who was born on 17th October 1873. Thakur Gopal Singh, who has a son named Ganpat Singh, born on 17th August 1895, knows Hindi and English.

The following pedigree shows the descent of the Rao of Kharwa, and the connected minor *Istimrardars* from Raja Udai Singh:—



(8) **Thakur Gaj Singh of Bandanwara**, a Rahtor Rajput of the Bhinai family (*q.v.*), holds an estate of twenty-one villages situated to the south of the Nasirabad Cantonment. The estimated income of the estate, including the subordinate *jagir* of Amargarh which pays revenue to the Rao, is Rs. 27,000, and the yearly revenue payable to Government is Rs. 5,356.

Bandanwara. Sura Mal, the second son of Udai Bhan of Bhinai, was the founder of the Bandanwara family, and at one time held, in addition to the Bandanwara *jagir*, the villages of Ramsar and Srinagar. These were subsequently resumed by Maharaja Ajit Singh of Marwar, and are now *khalsa*. The late Rao Ranjit Singh, the father of the present Thakur, belonged originally to the Kalyanpura branch of the family, and was adopted in 1852 as a son to Suraj Mal II. The title of Rao was conferred on him as a personal distinction in 1877. He died on 4th April 1894.

The distinction of Rao Sahib was conferred on the present Thakur as a personal honour in 1901.

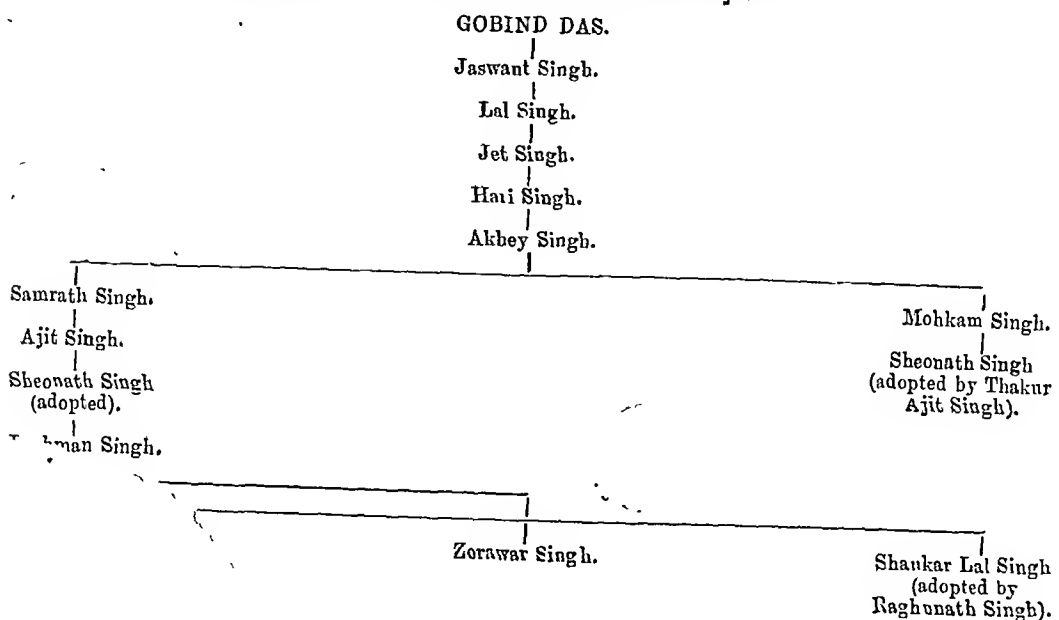
Thakur Gaj Singh, who succeeded his father Rao Ranjit Singh on the latter's death in April 1894, was born on 15th October 1869. He has no son. He was educated at the Mayo College, and, like his father, is an Honorary Magistrate and Munsiff within his own estate.

(9) **Thakur Devi Singh of Mehron** is a Rahtor Rajput of the Pisangan and Junian family, who holds an estate of thirteen villages, yielding an income of about Rs. 20,000, and paying a fixed revenue to Government of Rs. 5,360. The origin of the estate has been described in the account of Raja Kandarp Sen of Pisangan. In 1811 the Thakur of Kadera, Lal Singh, made an attack on his cousin, Jagat Singh, Thakur of Mehron, on the ground that insufficient land had been assigned to him for maintenance. The attack was successful, and Jagat Singh and his son, Bharat Singh, after a promise of safety, were treacherously murdered. Lal Singh made himself master of Mehron, but was forced to give up his conquest by the Raja of Shahpore, and Bharat Singh's widow was placed in possession of the estate. She in 1842 adopted a son, Jawahir Singh, who was subsequently succeeded by his brother Kalu Singh. The Thakur, who was born on 27th June 1864, and has one son, Gajadhar Singh, who was born on 17th July 1884, was adopted by Kalu Singh.

Mehron. Thakur Sangram Singh of Para is a Rahtor Rajput, and is the head of a junior branch of the Pisangan family (*q.v.*) The estate, which consists of six villages, pays a revenue of Rs. 5,360 to Government. To the villages originally separated from Pisangan and assigned to him, Jhujhar Singh, two were subsequently added by himself and one by his son. Thakur Sangram Singh, who was born on 11th December 1895, and was educated at the Mayo College, succeeded his father Thakur Sheonath Singh. He has no children.

(11) **Thakur Partab Singh of Deogaon-Baghera**, a Rahtor Rajput of the Deolia branch of the Bhinai family (*q.v.*), holds an estate consisting of three villages, which yields a revenue of Rs. 28,000, and pays Rs. 5,925 to Government. The founder of the estate was Nahar Singh, the third son of Akhay Raj, who having obtained Nandsi as maintenance from Deolia, expelled the Gaur Rajputs from Deogaon and the Sesodias from Baghera. Of the villages which he thus obtained, he bestowed three on the Thakur of Junia, who had assisted him in his enterprise, and whose son had been slain in battle. As will be seen from a reference to the Bhinai pedigree, Nahar Singh was the father of a numerous progeny, whose descendants hold many villages in subordination to Deogaon-Baghera. Thakur Partab Singh, who was born on 20th September 1875, succeeded Thakur Sardar Singh to whom he was collaterally related, and who died on 30th May 1900.

(12) **Thakur Shankar Lal Singh of Gobindgarh**, a Rahtor Rajput, descended from Raja Uda Singh of Marwar, holds a small estate of two villages and three hamlets to the west of Ajmer. The annual income is about Rs. 10,000, and the revenue paid to Government is Rs. 2,418. The founder of the family was Gobind Das, a grandson of the Mota Raja (Uda Singh) of Marwar, the present Thakur, who was born on 17th September 1877, and received his education at the Mayo College. The Thakur succeeded by adoption to his eldest brother in 1891. The following pedigree shows the descent of the family :—

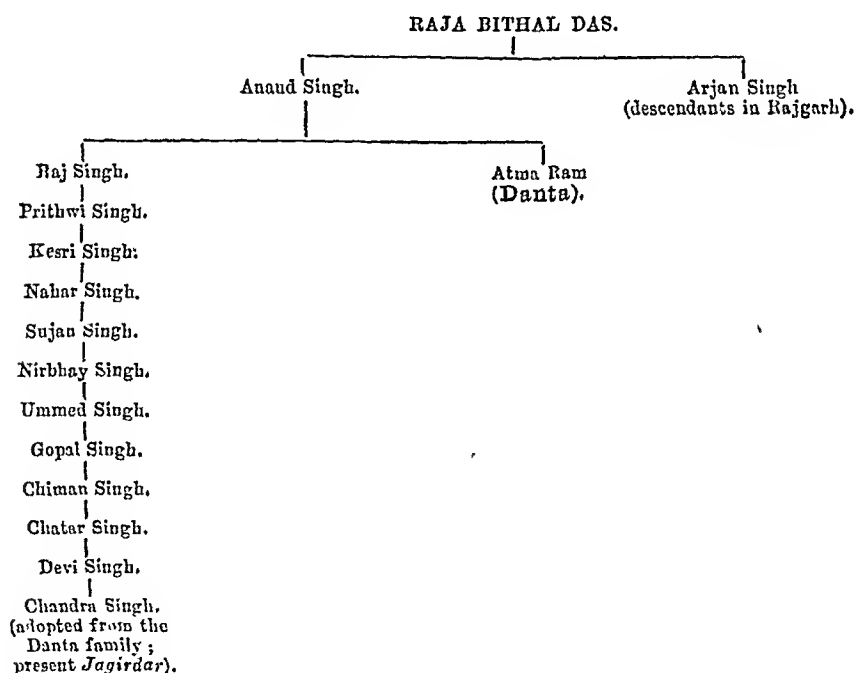


(13) **Thakur Jaswant Singh of Tantuti**, a Rahtor Rajput of the Bhinai family (*q.v.*), holds an estate of three villages of a total annual value* of Rs. 15,000, which pays Rs. 3,318 annually to Government. The Thakur, who holds *dharm* lands in three villages, has also a *jagir* village in Marwar. The present Thakur was born on 20th August 1860, and succeeded his father, Thakur Bhabut Singh.

(14) **Thakur Moti Singh of Barli**, a Rahtor Rajput of the Deolia branch of the Bhiuai family (*q.v.*), holds an estate consisting of twelve villages, of which the revenue is estimated at Rs. 30,000, and which pays Rs. 3,398 annually to Government. The village of Pipaliya, which formerly belonged to Barli, now forms a part of the Bhinai estate, having after much litigation, been made over to Zoravar Singh, the grandfather of the present Raja of Bhinai, who had been adopted by Bishan Singh, the then Thakur of Barli, early in the present century. The condition of the adoption was that in the event of Bishan Singh having no son, Zorwar Singh should be heir to Barli, or, should a son be born, should obtain Pipaliya. A son was born, but until compelled, the Barli Thakur refused to make over Pipaliya. The present Thakur, Moti Singh, who was born on 7th October 1862, succeeded Thakur Madho Singh in 1886, as being the nearest qualified claimant. He has a son named Shambhu Singh born on 25th November 1888.

(15) **Thakur Lachhman Singh of Bagsuri** is a Rahtor Rajput of the Masuda family (*q.v.*). The Bagsuri estate consists of two villages and a hamlet, yielding an annual revenue of about Rs. 12,000, and pays Rs. 1,410 to Government. The founder of the estate was Lal Singh, the brother of Hanwant Singh, who obtained Masuda by grant from the Emperor Akbar. The present Thakur, who succeeded his father, Thakur Nahar Singh, was born on 6th September 1869, and has a son named Onkar Singh, born on 1st September 1896. He was educated at the Mayo College. The name is said to be derived from *bagh* and *sur*, Lal Singh having seen a pig and a tiger fighting on the spot where the fort was built by him on the assurance of the augurs that it would be impregnable.

(1) **Raja Chandra Singh, Jagirdar of Rajgarh**, is a Guar Rajput of the Bithaldasot family. The estate consists of two villages, and yields an annual income of Rs. 5,000. The Raja succeeded his adoptive father, Raja Devi Singh, in 1887. He has no children. The title of Raja is held by courtesy by the head of the family, and was conferred on Devi Singh by the British Government as a personal distinction in 1877.



(2) **Dewan Ghiyas-ud-din Ali Khan, Sajjada Nashin-i-Dargah-i-Khwaja Sahib**, is a Muhammadan Saiyid, and a lineal descendant of Khwaja Muayyan-ud-din Chishti, who is said by tradition to have come to Ajmer from Sanjar in Khorasan to establish a shrine. According to the account given by Mr. La Touche (Settlement Report, page 51): "The Khwaja Sahib is

* The estate includes the village of Baori held by a cousin.

said to have died in the year 1235 at the age of ninety-seven, and to have come to Ajmer at the age of fifty-two, shortly before the invasion of India by Shahab-ud-din. Many marvels are related of him in the Akbar-ul-Akhyar and other works, and it is difficult to extract the historical facts of his career from the mass of romantic legends which have gathered round his name. It was at Medina that a voice came from the tomb of the prophet calling for Muayyan-ud-din and directing him to go to Ajmer and convert the infidels. He obeyed the call, and on his arrival at Ajmer rested on the spot now known as the Kaugara Masjid in the Dargah, where at the time the King's camels were tethered. From this he was ejected, and went and took up his abode on the hill which overlooks the Ana Sagar, the margin of which lake he found covered with idol temples. The idolaters, enraged at the slaughter of kids by the Musalmans, conspired to massacre them, but when they came in sight of the Khwaja, remained rooted to the spot, and though they tried to ejaculate *Ram! Ram!* could only articulate *Rahim! Rahim!* In vain did the idolaters, led by the great sorcerer, Ajaipal, and the *deota*, Shadideo, renew their attacks. They were defeated on every occasion, and finally begged forgiveness of the Khwaja, and invited him to come and take up his abode in the town. He consequently chose the site of the present Dargah." This shrine which commands the most profound veneration from Indian Muhammadans, and was visited on foot by the Emperor Akbar as a pilgrim, is endowed with a *jagir* in Ajmer of fourteen villages, yielding a revenue of about Rs. 22,000, and with another in His Highness the Nizam's territories. The income is shared equally by the Diwan, the Dargah, and the *Khadims* (servants). The Diwan is the manager and head of the spiritualities of the shrine, and besides large offerings which he shares with the *Khadims*, holds a *jagir* in Ajmer and another in Jaipur. The annual income of the *jagir* is about Rs. 6,000. The estate is at present involved in debt, and its management is under a special regulation vested in the Court of Wards. The Diwan received the title of Shaikh-ul-Mushaikh as a personal distinction in 1877.

(3) Nawab Shams-ud-din Ali Khan, popularly known as Nawab Kumhar Bao, holds a *jagir* valued at Rs. 10,000 a year, and consisting of four whole and seven half villages. Tahawwur Khan, the ancestor of the Nawab, accompanied Aurangzeb to Ajmer on his expedition against Dara, but was put to death on suspicion of treachery. His son, Sher-ud-din, received a *jagir* from the Emperor Farukhsiyar. The present Nawab was a student of the Mayo College. Succession is by primogeniture.

(4) Raja Bijai Singh, *Jagirdar* of Gangwana, is a Rahtor Rajput, descended from Kishan Singh, the founder of the Kishangarh State. Maharaja Raj Singh of Kishangarh (1706-48) died leaving four sons, of whom the eldest, Fateh Singh, became the ancestor of the Fatehgarh family (*vide* Kishangarh Chapter). The second, Sawant Singh, succeeded to Kishangarh. The third, Bahadur Singh, on the failure of heirs to Sardar Singh, son of Sawant Singh, became the ancestor of the present Chief of Kishangarh. The fourth, Bir Singh, got a share in Karkeri, and left two sons, Amar Singh and Surat Singh. It was intended by Sardar Singh that Amar Singh should succeed him, but Bahadur Singh, with the help first of the Maharaja of Jodhpur and subsequently of Holkar, expelled Bir Singh and his family from all their possessions except Ralaota, and procured the adoption of his own son, Birad Singh. Bir Singh having joined the Mahrattas was killed at the battle of Panipat, and his two sons received a *jagir* of six villages, three, subsequently confiscated by the Mahrattas, being assigned to Amar Singh, and Gangwana, Untra, and Magra to Surat Singh. Of Surat Singh's two sons, the elder received Ralaota, and the younger, Arjan Singh, the Gangwana *jagir* out of their father's inheritance. Arjan Singh's sons, Balwant Singh and Sher Singh, divided the Gangwana estate, of which moieties are held by their descendants. The whole income of the *jagir* is about Rs. 5,000. In the elder branch, that of Raja Bijai Singh, primogeniture now prevails. Raja Bijai Singh, who was born in 1863, succeeded his father, Raja Balwant Singh, in 1878. Of the shareholders in the other moiety of the *jagir*, Raja Sanwant Singh was Appellate Judge at Jhalrapatan. His uncle, Raja Aman Singh, whose sister was the mother of Maharana Sajjan Singh of Udaipur, is Commander-in-Chief of the Mewar Forces. The title of Raja is enjoyed by the members of the family by courtesy, and was conferred as a personal distinction in 1877 upon Raja Balwant Singh.

(5) Mir ~~Shah~~ Mahomed ~~Yahya~~, a Muhammadan Saiyid Pirzada, holds a *jagir* consisting of Dudiana and half Dilwara. The former is held by the *Jagirdar* as *Sajjada-nashin* of the shrine Khawaja Maudad Chishti in Herat, with which, however, all connection has ceased for two centuries. The whole *jagir* is of small value, and being involved in debt is under the management of the Court of Wards. Mir Inayatullah Shah, the grandfather of the present *Jagirdar*, who was born on the 17th March 1827, was at one time an Honorary Magistrate of Ajmer. ~~Muhammad Ynkub Ali Khan, and Muhammad Ayub Ali Khan are the paternal uncles of the Jagirdar. He was succeeded by his son Mir Mahomed Ali Khan.~~

(6) Mir Mibrban Ali, *Jagirdar* of Jharwasa and Bhatiana, holds a third share in a *jagir*, of which the whole value is about Rs. 3,500, and which is enjoyed revenue free. Mir Mibrban Ali, who was recognized as *Jagirdar* in 1888, succeeded his grandfather Mir Nizam Ali, who was an Honorary Magistrate, a member of the *Jagir* Committee, and President of the Committee of the Dargah Khwaja Sahib.

(1) Seth Umed Mal, a Mahajan Oswal, is considered a leading Banker of Ajmer. He belongs to the Lodha family, of which the origin is ascribed to a Chauhan Rajput of Nandoli in Marwar, who being born without arms and legs received the nickname of *Lodha* (a clod), and subsequently obtained his limbs by the favour of a Jain ascetic. An ancestor of the family migrated to Alwar, and a further migration took place two generations ago to Jaipur, and subsequently in 1818 to Ajmer, where the firm was established under the style of Kanwal Naian Hamir Singh. Rai Bahadur Seth Samir Mal, elder brother of Seth Umed Mal, was President of the Municipal Committee at Ajmer. He was Honorary Magistrate in the city for many years, and received the title of Rai Bahadur in 1890. Their brother-in-law is Mahta Panna Lal, late Diwan of Mewar. Seth Samir Mal died in 1898. Seth Umed Mal received the title of Rai Bahadur in 1901.

(2) Seth Nemi Chand Soni is the proprietor of the banking firm of Jawahir Mal Ganbhir Mal. He was born in 1856. He is an Honorary Magistrate. His grandfather, Jawahir Mal, was an inhabitant of Kishangarh, whence he migrated to Ajmer in or about 1816, and made a large fortune by trading in opium. Seth Mul Chand, the father of Seth Nemi Chand, enjoyed the distinction of Rai Bahadur. The firm has branches at Jaipur, Udaipur, Kota, Karauli, Dholpur, Calcutta, Bombay, Mandor, Agra, Gwalior, Nimach, and other places.

(3) Rai Seth Chand Mal, a Jain Oswal, belongs to a family which, three generations ago, being then settled at Riyan, received the hereditary style of Seth from the Raja of Marwar. Seth Hamir Mal, the father of the present representative, was well known in his time, and Seth Chand Mal's position and services as a member of the Municipal Committee of Ajmer and of the District Board, and as an Honorary Magistrate, gained him in 1877 the title of Rai. The firm, which own several *zamindari* villages in the Central Provinces, are Government treasurers at Peshawar, Jalandhar Hoshiyarpur, Kangra, Sambhar, Sagar and Morar, and have branches at Bombay, Jabalpur, Narsinghpur, Mirzapur, Sagar, Rae Bareilly, Damoh, Jalandhar, Hoshiyarpur, Peshawar, Gwalior, Jodhpur, Jhansi, Indore, and other places.

(4) Rai Bahadur Seth Sobhag Mal Dadha is another of the leading bankers of Ajmer. His family originally had their chief house of business in Jaipur. The firm does a large business in Hyderabad (Dekkan).

